

DAILY REPORT

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COMMUNIST PARTIES ISSUE POLITICAL DECLARATION

AU181419 East Berlin HORIZONT in German issue No 10/1983 p 10

["Declaration of South American Communist Parties"]

[Text] A conference of the communist parties of the so-called southern cone took place in Lima in November 1982. It adopted the following declaration in which the participating parties submitted their analysis of the situation in that region.

The meeting of representatives of the communist parties of South America (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay) which was also attended by a delegation of the Communist Party of Ecuador is taking place at a moment in which the anti-imperialist movement is scoring great successes in Latin America. These successes are the outcome of the stubborn struggle which is being waged by the democratic, workers, and peoples' forces against the pilferage and enslavement of our countries by U.S. imperialism and by its regional accomplices which are responsible for the serious economic crisis from which our continent suffers.

1 -- The Upsurge of the Mass Movement

All this is expressed in increasing protests against the methods of pilferage of the imperialist monopolies, the transnational corporations and the greed for profits of financial capital. The anti-imperialist attitude was expressed particularly clearly during Great Britain's colonialist aggression against the Malvinas Islands, which was supported by the United States.

Above all the resistance of our peoples against the oppressive regimes in South America has gained in intensity, against those regimes which are trying in the service of imperialism, financial capital and of the oligarchy to suppress the struggle for the national and social liberation in our region. Within this framework the great victory of the unified democratic and anti-imperialist forces of Bolivia -- which resulted in the establishment of the government of the UDP (Bolivian Democratic People's Union) -- must be particularly emphasized. In this context the broadest possible solidarity against the pressure of the United States and the machinations of the domestic reaction is necessary. At the same time further progress in the development of a mass movement in Brazil has been scored and the Argentinian people are waging a large-scale struggle for the restoration of democratic liberties. The Chilean dictatorship is being shaken by a grave crisis and the dictatorship in Uruguay is breaking apart, events which are due to the resistance of the peoples of these countries. Also mentioned in this context must be the growing opposition to the dictatorial regime of Stroessner and the intensified class struggle in Peru, where the gains achieved during Velasco Alvarado's progressive regime are being abolished. The struggle of the masses for the implementation of their demands, for solving the economic crisis and for democratic rights has increased in the South American countries even though the level of this struggle is different.

2 -- The counteroffensive of U.S. imperialism and of the oligarchic quarter in the countries south of the equator at the beginning of the seventies, within whose framework authoritarian and fascist regimes came to power -- in this respect the model which was applied in Brazil in 1964 was followed -- is still running against the stubborn, tenacious struggle of our peoples. Nevertheless -- with the exception of Bolivia -- dictatorial regimes still exist. The peoples are striving to overthrow these and to replace them with democratic regimes.

Imperialism, which is allied with the quarters of financial capital, wholesale trade, and the most powerful, big landowners, assigns to the armed forces the role of occupation forces in their own country to preserve its domination. What is involved here is the perpetuation of these dictatorships or a variant -- that is the establishment of a so-called limited "democracy" in which the democratic rights are restricted and the activities of the workers class and of all the other forces of the people, particularly of the communists, are being suppressed or obstructed and in which a so-called institutionalization is being pushed through with the decisive cooperation of the reactionary military leadership.

3 -- In the course of this counteroffensive the Unidad Popular government in Chile was toppled by a bloody putsch. Similar methods were used in other countries. In doing so the democratic institutions were destroyed, the state apparatus was made fascist and a barbarous oppression was unleashed which resulted in the violation of human rights; in imprisonment, torture, murder and the mass "disappearance" of people.

At the same time the restructuring of the economy in favor of financial capital and particularly of the banks on the basis of the economic "model" of the Chicago boys and of the International Monetary Fund was begun. This resulted in a deterioration of the living standard of the masses, in a greater dependence -- which in the face of the crisis of world capitalism has made us even more defenseless -- in enormous foreign debts, the ruin of many sectors of industry and agriculture, in an extremely serious recession which in turn is accompanied by neglect of the cultural heritage of each nation.

Against The Course of the Reagan Administration

4 -- Imperialism is trying to subordinate our countries to its war-mongering global strategy. The U.S. policy as results from the well-known Santa Fe document, tends toward subordinating our part of the continent to the security screen and expansionist aspirations of the global power of the United States. The intention to incorporate our countries in the U.S. master plan could not be formulated in a more cynical manner. This plan is ultimately aimed at unleashing another world war against the Soviet Union and the other peoples which are building real socialism, a war which could threaten the existence of all of humanity.

The aggressiveness of imperialism and its stooges uses the methods of Nazism, as in the case of Lebanon. It brings the world to the brink of a nuclear catastrophe which was so far prevented by the responsible action of the USSR and the community of socialist states, by the resistance with which this policy is met in the movement of the nonaligned countries and by the realistically thinking circles of other states, as well as by the energetic and comprehensive antiwar actions which are carried out in various capitalist states, also in the United States.

Imperialism is intensifying its threats against Cuba -- the most important target of the hostility of the United States on our continent because of its role as vanguard in the anti-imperialist struggle -- is preparing an aggression against Nicaragua's democratic regime of national liberation -- all that is to be "legalized" with the Symms Amendment -- and is considering a comprehensive intervention against the heroic people of El Salvador.

The plan of intervention in Central America, which is to take place with the help of puppet governments, is on the same level as the war provocations which are correspondingly expressed in the deployment of U.S. missiles in Europe, in the systematic sabotage of the negotiations on disarmament and in the diplomatic and military support for the Israeli genocide of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples.

The democratic and anti-imperialist struggle in the south of the subcontinent for the self-determination of peoples, against the unbridled striving for intervention and the warmongering of the Reagan policy, which is today most highly expressed in the solidarity with Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada as well as with the peoples of El Salvador and Guatemala is a firm component of the struggle for world peace.

Peace Struggle Is the Most Important Task

Since the events due to the Anglo-American attack against Argentina on the islands in the South Atlantic it has been clear that our America is not longer outside a possible nuclear conflict which can be unleashed by the imperialist madness. The aggression against the territorial sovereignty of Argentina became clear in the proposal to transform the Malvinas into a NATO nuclear base with the aim of extending the military power of imperialism to the most southern regions of the planet. The United States has not given up its project concerning the SATO (South Atlantic Treaty Organization), despite the contradictions and criticism which that has aroused in some governments of South America.

The struggle for peace -- the most urgent task of the communists, of entire mankind -- to prevent a nuclear catastrophe is inseparably linked with the concrete struggle against the wirepuller of war, that is against imperialism, in particular U.S. imperialism, the main enemy of democratic life, independence and the sovereignty of our countries, the main enemy of the freedom of all peoples of the world.

5 -- The topical development in Latin America reflects the aggravation of the main contradictions between our countries and the imperialist main power. This has become even clearer since the Malvinas conflict. The importance of this event lies moreover in the fact that there was an explosion of anti-imperialist feeling which is unparalleled in our history in scope and simultaneousness. The diplomatic defeat of the United States in the OAS and the consultative organ of the TIAR (Interamerican Treaty on Mutual Assistance) is a noteworthy fact. A new balance of power can be observed which makes it possible to put the inter-American relations which Washington has so far always considered as relations between masters and slaves on another organizational and institutional basis.

6 -- The global policy of aggression of imperialism must be countered by global resistance by all parts of the society which suffer from plunder by the United States and the aggravation of the economic crisis, no matter where the motives for their resistance lie. In this connection, apart from strengthening the revolutionary struggle of our peoples it is possible to achieve a broad consensus of the forces, the peoples and the governments which reject the striving for intervention and the plundering by the United States and are struggle for self-determination, democracy as well as against reaction and fascism. The achievement of the democratic freedoms, the smashing of the authoritarian regimes -- that is an essential demand of the peoples of South America who are striving for full sovereignty and a progressive democracy, with the masses, the heroes of history, begin truly included in the work.

In order to achieve this, the unity of the forces of the left is indispensable, which is the decisive core of the broadest democratic agreement. This unity is one of the fundamental aims of the communist parties.

Leading Role of the Workers Class

The leading role of the workers class is a vital prerequisite for all this. The communist parties have a duty to work to overcome all causes of the split and to support the unity of the trade union movement in all our individual countries and on the continent in general.

The workers class is the main force in the class struggle and in the democratic and anti-imperialist struggle. Moreover, the role of the peasants, the intellectuals, the students and the middle layers in general is increasing. The national bourgeoisie's opportunities for positive actions are increasing. Broad circles of the Catholic Church and other religious movements are resolutely participating in defending human rights. In addition, one must not ignore the objective contradictions between certain circles of the grand bourgeoisie and imperialism. Also several circles of the armed forces are not insusceptible to this new situation. The armed forces as a whole are trained in accordance with the U.S. military doctrine of "national security" and "inner front." But within them movements have developed which are reacting to this orientation by which they are subordinated to the Pentagon and are starting patriotic steps against the imperialist domination and distancing themselves from fascist elements.

7 — The scope of this historical task of national and social liberation, and the role the workers class is playing in this connection reaffirm the role of the vanguard, that is, of the communist parties, which are aware of the fact that the real freedom and complete development of our countries can only be asserted under socialism.

Imperialism, which fans reprisals against the communists, is conducting an unbridled ideological campaign aimed at distorting vis-a-vis the masses the significance of the communist policy and the concrete results of its implementation in those countries which are building real socialism and at developing a systematic anti-Sovietism.

The parties are confronted with the main task of stepping up this ideological struggle in order to unmask these imperialist lies. We in turn reaffirm the creative vigor of Marxism-Leninism, reject the alleged "modernizations," which are only intended to disguise reformism, opportunism and bourgeois nationalism, and we confirm the Havana declaration of 1975, signed by the communist parties of Latin America and of the Caribbean.

In the spirit of our common struggle we greet the fraternal parties of the continent since we are sure that we are pursuing the same objectives as they do. We reaffirm our unreserved internationalistic solidarity in the conviction that -- despite the unequal development, the variety of the specific tasks and of the immediate methods and objectives -- we are concerned about one and the same cause and that we have the same enemies. We resolutely endorse the unity of the international communist and workers movement.

8 — We emphatically emphasize that we are certain that the joint struggle will lead us to victory in our historic struggle against imperialism. The unity of the three revolutionary streams which are typical of our era -- the socialist worldsystem, the workers class of the capitalist countries and the national liberation movement -- is the strongest support for and the most decisive force in our struggle.

Latin America has embarked on its victorious development as has been shown by the examples of Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada. Under these historic conditions the hour has come once again for the peoples, the hour of Latin American fraternal alliance, for which the champions of independence have fought. U.S. imperialism is not invincible, if the peoples take the cause of national sovereignty, democracy and peace into their own hands.

Lima, 21 November 1983 (subheads inserted by HORIZONT)

LA NACION INTERVIEWS PRESIDENT BIGNONE

PY160138 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 13 Jan 83 pp 6, 7

[Interview granted by Argentine President Reynaldo Bignone to LA NACION -- time and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] The visit Mrs Thatcher paid to the Malvinas was the first one made by a British prime minister to the islands. Would that not mean that the political decision to invade the islands has made their recovery a more difficult, rather than easier, task?

[Answer] The results we achieve, and the time we will have to wait in order to achieve those results will give a concrete answer to that question. Obviously, if things do not change, we already have an answer; no concrete results were reached in 17 years of negotiations. How far ahead are we since 2 April? Well, that will depend on future steps.

[Question] But doesn't this situation show that the British Government has a stronger determination to strengthen its position on the islands and to even build a military base there; a project that did not exist before?

[Answer] We cannot judge the British Government's intentions because they are the ones who make their own decisions. But my answer to your question would be: not necessarily. I think it is a political move...

[Question] In other words, you believe that the political decision of the Argentine Government will yield results...

[Answer] That political move involved in Mrs Thatcher's visit, the construction of a military base or the possible extension of their stay on the islands are actions which must be considered from the standpoint of intentions. We will do all in our power to prevent those actions from being carried out.

[Question] At which level will we concentrate our efforts?

[Answer] At all levels where it may be necessary. That is and has always been the Argentine decision.

[Question] Could you give us an example of the levels you are talking about?

[Answer] Well, the most suitable tools the government may use in the pursuit of our national objective, which is the restoration of our sovereignty over the islands.

At this moment, diplomacy is the tool that the government is widely using; and I think the results are very positive.

[Question] Precisely in that area, will the establishment of relations with Arab countries mean that Argentina will at some time agree to the opening of a PLO office on our territory, despite intelligence reports that guerrillas were specifically trained by PLO men?

[Answer] We have not considered that possibility and we are not analyzing it either. We have always maintained relations with Arab countries but in the specific case of the PLO there are no projects under study and no possibilities have been considered either.

[Question] Changing the subject, when will the report on the missing persons' issue be released? It was to be released last year and it has been delayed.

[Answer] No deadline has ever been established. Analyzing the issue also involves fixing the most appropriate date for releasing the report. I would not even dare call it a report on missing persons. It is a concrete action on this issue and on the consequences of the antisubversive war, a concrete action which is being thoroughly analyzed by the Armed Forces and by the government.

[Question] Do you believe that subversion has reappeared or that it may reappear in the near future?

[Answer] Subversion has not reappeared. If we take a look at the situation prevailing in other countries which are very near Argentina, and if we compare it with our local situation, we will realize that subversion has not reappeared. The potential threat that actually exists is international terrorism -- which is always the same -- to attack or seize the government in various countries, to seize power in various countries. Subversion may reappear as long as we allow it to reappear but, so far, it has not.

[Question] Do you believe conditions are not ripe for a revival of terrorism in Argentina?

[Answer] I believe conditions are not ripe for two main reasons: First, the people, who went through this experience not long ago, reject this kind of action; second, we now know how to cope with it.

[Question] How would you rate the relations existing between the executive branch and the military junta?

[Answer] As relations go, they are excellent. As to their mechanism, it is that established by the statute of the national reorganization process.

[Question] Monsignor Laguna, the head of the social-pastoral team, has said that it must not be this government but the next constitutional government which should enact an amnesty law. What is your opinion on the matter?

[Answer] Everything depends on the objectives of that amnesty law. This has been analyzed. If analyses show that an amnesty law is necessary, everything will depend on its scope. And I do not see why this government, or any other government, could not enact such a law.

[Question] I understand that Monsignor Laguna believes that an amnesty law should not be enacted by those who played a role in the situation which gave rise to the need for an amnesty law.

[Answer] That would apply if we believed that those who played a role in the above situation bear some of the blame. I think Monsignor Laguna means that an amnesty law should not be enacted by those who are at fault, who would thus be giving amnesty to themselves. But we are far from that idea because we are convinced that we are not to blame.

[Question] Has government thinking been exclusively about terrorists when considering the possible enactment of an amnesty law?

[Answer] No, not at all. All aspects of an amnesty law have been given consideration. But, obviously, the word amnesty means in one way or another to wipe out guilt. It then applies to those who are guilty.

[Question] Do you believe that those who have played a role, those who have participated in a process where mistakes were made are entitled to enact an amnesty law?

[Answer] In absolute terms, no.

[Question] The conflict with Chile and, later, the conflict with Great Britain demanded a strong effort by our country in order to have the necessary weaponry. May this effort have influenced the balance of the nation's general budget to the detriment of allocations for other budget items?

[Answer] Not to any great extent. Argentina did not engage in an armed confrontation with Chile. This situation called for spending (in troop mobilization and so forth, but it did not involve the purchase of a particular type of equipment that would demand a large investment. And, as you know, we faced the armed conflict against Great Britain with the means available to the Armed Forces.

[Question] Are the Armed Forces being reequipped?

[Answer] No, not at this moment. Providing equipment to the Armed Forces continues in keeping with plans which were already adopted before the conflict with Great Britain. This conflict has prompted no effort to reequip our Armed Forces. But there are expenses arising from that conflict and there is also a plan for permanently providing equipment to the Armed Forces with a view toward their improvement.

[Question] Do you believe that there is a justification for the existence, at this moment, of paramilitary or irregular police forces, like the ones which fought the guerrillas? Are the former members of such groups under control? Have the guards who had to be provided for the protection of officials and other personalities, for security reasons, been disarmed? Does the government have absolute control over the use of force?

[Answer] The existence and actions of paramilitary or irregular police forces can never be justified. I repeat, never. There are military, police or subversive groups. Military and police forces, charged with maintaining order, are run by the state. Anyone outside the forces run by the state is, in one way or another, subversive. The ideological shade makes no difference, because in one way or another his actions involve subversion, disruption.

[Question] Going back to a former question, in addition to the \$42 to \$43 billion debt that Minister Wehbe admitted, is there another foreign debt of \$1, \$2 or \$3 billion arising from the expenses that you mentioned in connection with the conflict against Great Britain?

[Answer] No, no. Argentina's overall foreign debt includes everything.

[Question] That means this is the total debt. It includes everything.

[Answer] Yes, yes. It is the total debt and it includes everything.

[Question] You have often said that during your almost 7-month term salaries have been substantially improved, despite the fact that the well-known public soup kitchens have once again been resorted to. What is your opinion of this?

[Answer] I am aware of that fact. You say they are once again resorted to. I think they always existed at the lower-income levels. I don't know whether this type of initiative has increased in number, but at least I know that it is being publicized more intensely. In no way do I blame this situation on the measures adopted by the government.

[Question] Some of the measures taken by this government or by previous governments of this process have resulted in growing unemployment. Has that happened because the measures adopted were wrong?

[Answer] Obviously, if the effect is wrong the measure was wrong. Nobody in his right mind would take a measure aimed at increasing unemployment. But let us also admit that unemployment rates in our country are far from being the highest in the world. Unemployment is not an exclusively Argentine problem now. I am aware of Argentina's unemployment rate and I worry about it, but it is not one of the highest rates in the world. And, naturally, the measure which brought about unemployment has been wrong. This is the only possible judgment.

[Question] Should your visit to New Delhi in March be interpreted as a sign of gratitude to the nonaligned countries' support for the Malvinas cause or will it just mean that Argentina is going to become a truly active member of the Nonaligned Movement?

[Answer] Argentina has belonged to the Nonaligned Movement for some years now and has had quite an outstanding or active participation within this movement. As I stated in the first answer in this interview, Argentina, through a national cause such as the Malvinas, we found out exactly where other countries stood. From the individual point of view and as a whole, Latin America really reacted as a single bloc in supporting the Argentine cause. Argentina also obtained the full support of the nonaligned countries. All this has shown us the need for Argentina to be in all possible international forums presenting its cause and its causes. This is why, in principle, it has been agreed that the president of the nation attend the meeting of nonaligned countries.

[Question] What do you mean by stating that you have accepted the invitation in principle?

[Answer] I said that we have accepted the invitation in principle because this is precisely what we have done. We have received the invitation and in principle have agreed to attend the meeting. I will not say when I am going since it is still a long time before March, it is still a long time before I can say I am leaving on such and such a date, in sum, there is still a lot of time to settle the details of the trip.

[Question] What is the state of the negotiations over the Beagle issue. Are the negotiations stagnated or has some progress been made. Why has the mediator held no private or joint public meetings with the delegates for so many months now?

[Answer] You have said it clearly, there have been no public contacts but contact is maintained permanently. I have experience in this regard since, as I stated before, I have participated directly and can assure you that permanent contact is maintained and although the progress made may not be spectacular nor of public knowledge it is being achieved constantly.

[Question] Is this a problem to be solved by the next government?

[Answer] Maybe not.

[Question] Do you think that this problem may be solved before you hand over the government?

[Answer] What I can say definitely is that since we will soon have a constitutional government formed by legitimate representatives of the people what must be found, sooner or later, is a generally acceptable solution reached through the mediation and not through a merely unilateral act of the current national government.

[Question] However, General Hughes recently stated categorically that the problem "should be solved by the next constitutional government."

[Answer] I share General Hughes viewpoint, that is, that the problem should be solved by the future constitutional government from the point of view of a need to solve it through a consensus, to call it something, reached by the peoples' representatives.

[Question] Despite the fact that this government accepted the pope's mediation?

[Answer] Yes, this government accepted the mediation but it did not create the problem.

[Question] Since we are referring to foreign policy could you describe current Argentine-U.S. relations?

[Answer] I have described them on many occasions but never rated them. I believe that our current relationship with the United States is normal. It is a normal relationship? between two countries, one of them a world superpower.

[Question] The United States refrained from making any statements regarding Mrs Thatcher's visit to the Malvinas. What's your opinion on this U.S. attitude?

[Answer] As with Argentina, the United States maintains a normal relationship with the United Kingdom and naturally, since Mrs Thatcher's visit to the Malvinas is a political act, the fact that the United States refrained from making any comments also represents a political act.

[Question] Naturally, but while the Department of State choses to remain silent President Reagan seems to decidely support Mrs Thatcher's attitude by terming her "Great Britain's best man," this means that he has taken sides with one party. He makes favorable statements regarding Mrs Thatcher's presence on the Malvinas, there is an obvious contradiction here.

[Answer] I really do not want to give my opinion in this regard. There are two issues on which I do not want to voice an opinion. In the first place on President Reagan's statements because to do so I must be aware of the full and official content of his statements and I can assure you that I do not have it so I cannot give an opinion and in the second place I do not want to say whether this represents a contradiction within the U.S. Government since it is a U.S. domestic affair.

[Question] Mr President what would the Argentine Government's reaction be if a group of European parliamentarians were to request permission to come to Argentina to investigate the whereabouts of European citizens declared missing?

[Answer] The same as usual, to reject their request since this is a domestic problem of the Republic of Argentina. So far the country has refused all requests of this type.

[Question] Sir, I would like to go back a few months, to the months of November and December when on various occasions, through various commentaries and interpretations of what could be heard in various sectors of the country, it was stated that you would leave your post. There was even mention of dates but the events confirmed that such dates did not exist and that you are still president of the republic.

Did the idea of resigning your post ever cross your mind at the most critical moments when those rumors were being spread?

[Answer] No, never. Deep inside I am constantly aware of my duty to serve the country in whatever it may demand.

If my duty is to serve the country as president I will remain in this post. I have stated publicly that my personal goal, because I understand that by doing so I am serving the country, is to be the person who will hand over power to a constitutional president. This is a personal hope which I have.

NAVY REPORTEDLY RECEIVES FRENCH MATERIEL

PY182343 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1238 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Bahia Blanca, 18 Jan (DYN) -- French materiel for the Argentine Navy was unloaded at the Comandante Espora Naval Air Base, it was learned from well-informed sources in this city.

The materiel was brought to the Comandante Espora Base by an Air France "jumbo" cargo plane and was quickly taken inside hangars at the base.

The crew of the French plane stayed at a downtown hotel in this city where they had lunch. They declined to give information on the type of materiel they transported to our country.

It was learned from other sources that the cargo consisted of amphibious vehicles, spare parts and assorted weapons.

No special security measures were adopted at this time unlike what happened a few weeks ago when Super Etendard planes were unloaded in Puerto Belgrano and when the road linking Punta Alta and Espora was closed for a few hours.

FORMER PRESIDENT ARTURO ILLIA DIES 18 JAN

PY190013 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2355 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Cordoba, 18 Jan (TELAM) -- Former Argentine president Arturo Illia died at 1030 according to an official report issued by the private hospital of this city where he had been hospitalized since 23 December.

The official report on the death of the leader of the Radical Party states that the management of the private hospital regrets to have to inform the public Dr Arturo Humberto Illia died at 2030 today.

SILES INVITED TO SOCIALIST MEETING BY MITTERRAND

PY190245 Paris AFP in Spanish 0145 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] La Paz, 18 Jan (AFP) -- Information Minister Jorge Gonzalez Roda said here today that Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo's presence in Paris to attend a meeting of the Socialist International on 23 January has been fully confirmed.

Siles Zuazo is the only Latin American president invited by French President Francois Mitterrand to attend the meeting, at which several European presidents and prime ministers will be present. It was also announced that Siles Zuazo's visit to Europe will provide an opportunity to negotiate greater cooperation and aid for the Bolivian democratic process which is experiencing serious problems because of the lack of capital and financing for emergency projects.

PRESIDENT CONTINUES TO STUDY MIR PROPOSALS

PY182312 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1638 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Excerpts] La Paz, 18 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- Two of the three parties who are members of the leftist governing coalition of the Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP] are still carrying out intensive negotiations to overcome the profound crisis unleashed within the UDP 2 weeks ago.

The co-governing Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] presented to President Hernan Siles Zuazo last night the conclusions of the meeting of national leaders, in response to the proposal made by the president last week to solve the political crisis.

These proposals include the need to reorganize the political leadership of the governing front by reestablishing the national and permanent committee of the UDP to be made up of representatives of the three parties with decisionmaking power, and not just simply leaders who lack power.

These proposals also demand the strengthening of the Interior and Information Ministries in view of the possible conflicts which might emerge with the new economic measures to be adopted in February, and demands the creation of a way which will allow the participation of the people in government decisions. These were, among others, conditions imposed by the MIR in order to accept the presidential proposal to ratify all the ministers of state, including the six ministers who are members of the MIR who submitted their resignations 10 days ago.

MIR Leader Attends Rally

PAL80255 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Jan 83

[Text] At a mass rally attended by Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo, the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] which is part of the government coalition, reiterated that it supports the present democratic process the country is undergoing.

The political forces that make up the government will continue united until they consolidate democracy and are able to achieve final victory, according to MIR leader (Antonio Aramibar). He delivered a speech to the huge crowd that gathered at the La Paz cemetery to honor the eight MIR leaders murdered in 1981 by a paramilitary band at the service of Gen Luis Garcia Meza.

The remains of the eight MIR leaders were transferred to a tomb built especially for them. The date 15 January was declared day of loyalty and democracy.

ORTIZ RENEGOTIATES ARGENTINE LOAN, DENIES COUP

FY181915 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Defense Minister Ortiz Mercado denied today that there is a possibility of a coup d'etat in Bolivia. Speaking to the Argentine press, the defense minister said that the Bolivian Armed Forces have traditionally favored the democratic process in keeping with their constitutional duties. Moreover, he noted that the Armed Forces themselves, have purged their ranks by dismissing 17 high-ranking officers who were involved in irregular activities.

Ortiz Mercado issued this statement during a press conference held at the Buenos Aires Ezeiza Airport upon leaving for Bolivia. He categorically denied that the Bolivian Armed Forces are involved in subversive activities since they have been long identified with the democratic process in keeping with their constitutional duties.

The Buenos Aires correspondent for Radio Illimani reports that during the defense minister's stay in Buenos Aires he signed a letter of [word indistinct] with the Argentine Government.

The defense minister's mission in Buenos Aires was expressly to renegotiate Bolivia's debt with Argentina which totals (?\$300) million. [passage indistinct]

As a result of his meetings with Argentine Government officials, Ortiz Mercado was able to renegotiate Bolivia's debt and to increase by 15 percent the price of gas that Bolivia exports to Argentina.

Moreover, the defense minister told journalists that the Bolivian Government [words indistinct] all its commitments.

Ortiz Mercado denied that Bolivia's constitutional government is in a position to purchase arms from Argentina. However, he noted that the Bolivian Government will keep all its commitments. He charged that \$3.8 billion of Bolivia's foreign debt has not been used to finance production sectors but to promote grandiose projects [words indistinct].

Speaking about drug trafficking, he said that constitutional governments are better able to control drug trafficking than military governments because of the actions of the legislative branch, public opinion and the media.

Regarding the Bolivian Army forces, Ortiz Mercado said that the military should understand that territorial sovereignty is based on (?the right of the people and the economy).

He said that in his talks with military commanders he was able to see that Bolivian military officers favor the democratic process in keeping with the Constitution. Moreover, he said that an adjustment process among all national sectors should be carried out in Bolivia (as heard).

CACERES RELEASES DEBT FIGURES OF TROUBLED BANKS

PY190220 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2139 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Santiago, 18 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- Central Bank President Carlos Caceres said today that the three financial companies whose liquidation has been ordered by the Chilean Government and the five subject to intervention have a foreign debt of \$3.9 billion.

Excessive foreign indebtedness and the channeling of credits to companies linked to the main shareholders of the banks were considered as the main causes of the crisis.

The total foreign debt of the financial sector is over \$7 billion, as compared to a total debt of about \$17 billion of the public and private sectors of the country.

COMMUNISTS HOLD CONGRESS-LIKE MEETING

PY142137 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 6 Jan 83 pp c 1, 4

[By Eugenia Calcagno Freire]

[Text] Osorno -- It has been learned that the so-called "chiefs of cells" of the outlawed communist party held a meeting in a town located south of Temuco "to evaluate the present political situation" and to draft an action plan regarding the government announcement on the return of exiles.

It was disclosed that the meeting, which had the nature of a national congress, was held in a farming area south of Temuco. The source, which is close to the Marxist group, said that the meeting was attended by leaders from all parts of the country.

It was not specified, however, whether delegations from other Marxist groups also attended the meeting.

The informer, who requested not to be identified, said that "there was a lot of action; specific proposals were submitted. But this is all that can be disclosed."

However, it was learned that one of the main issues discussed was the task carried out by the human rights committee for the return of exiles.

It was noted that "this issue was discussed extensively." Moreover, it was implied that the outlawed communist party "wants to have the privilege of reestablishing contacts" as soon as possible with groups of exiles returning to the country.

Other sources noted that this meeting could have been held in another part of Chile, and that perhaps it was reported to have been held in the Temuco area to confuse people.

FULL MEMBERSHIP IN NONALIGNED MOVEMENT REQUESTED

PA180419 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0134 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Bogota, 17 Jan (EFE) -- Today the Colombian Government officially requested admission as a full member of the Nonaligned Movement. The request was presented to Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca who heads the Nonaligned Movement Coordinating Bureau in New York. Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo said that the request will also be sent to all member countries of the movement and especially to Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao, organizer of the upcoming March summit.

The decision to join the group was announced by Colombian President Belisario Betancur Cuartas during his inaugural speech on 7 August 1982. Official contact with movement members began late last year at the UN General Assembly in New York and continued with a visit by former President Misael Pastrana Borrero to Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

DEFENSE MINISTER CALLS FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING

PA180056 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Bogota -- Defense Minister Fernando Landazabal Reyes has said that the armed forces need additional funds to carry out programs for the economic and social development of the areas that have been affected by violence. Although he said that the area of the security and defense of the nation is well covered, General Landazabal Reyes indicated that his ministry needs the economic tools with which to build roads and bridges, cooperate in the construction of rural roads, build schools and help the peasants in the areas that suffer problems in public order.

In a statement to CARACOL, the minister said that any effort made by the country to achieve peace is little enough. He said that once peace is guaranteed, it will be possible to consolidate the armed forces' intention to participate in socially oriented activities through the military civic action programs initiated by President Belisario Betancur.

KIDNAPPERS NEGOTIATING RELEASE OF PUBLIC OFFICIAL

PA180425 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0101 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Bogota, 17 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- A family spokesman said today that the kidnapers of a government official who is also Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo's sister-in-law, are negotiating her release. Maria Antonia Garces de Lloreda, 42-year-old director of the Regional Institute of Fine Arts, was kidnapped by three armed men on 20 December while leaving a Cali medical center, 500 km southeast of Bogota. Her husband, Alvaro Jose Lloreda, the foreign minister's brother, asked the media for prudence so as not to hamper the negotiations that according to him were "advancing with good prospects." Alvaro Lloreda, director and co-owner of the daily EL PAIS in Cali, did not reveal the amount of the possible ransom and offered no details.

The authorities said that they did not know if Garces de Lloreda was kidnapped by guerrillas or common criminals. The kidnap victim is the mother of five and a member of a wealthy family in Cali.

In a recent communique the leftist 19 April Movement (M-19), replied to a press report blaming them for the kidnapping by denying any connection with the incident.

REPORTAGE ON FARC GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES

Cauca Town Seized, Police Killed

PA152326 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Popayan -- Two national policemen were killed last night during an attack by a column of the 8th Front of the outlawed Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC. The column attacked Toribio, a town in North Cauca Department.

The departmental police command has just confirmed that some 120 guerrillas seized the town at 2200 and held it until 0300 after engaging in a bloody battle with the 13 policemen who were guarding the small town.

Carrying automatic weapons and dressed in army uniforms, the FARC insurgents shouted slogans against the amnesty and said they will not take advantage of it. Policemen (Bernardo Trujillo Rivera) and (Orlando Vanegas) were killed at the end of the incursion, the police command said.

Army Mobilizes

PA162352 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Jan 83

[Text] Bogota -- General Gustavo Matamoros, general army commander, hinted today at the possibility of massing a large part of the army in the south to wage a final and definitive battle against the guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC.

Commenting on the FARC incursion into Toribio on Thursday, the senior officer said that the armed forces will not capitulate to the guerrillas.

At the same time, it was learned that groups of soldiers and noncommissioned officers have continued arriving at the scene of the event and [words indistinct] places. Unofficially, it has been estimated that no less than 1,000 troops are already massed on the borders of Huila, Tolima, Cauca and Valle Departments.

ALLEGED RED BRIGADES MEMBER WINS RESIDENT VISA

PA160256 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2338 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] Bogota, 15 Jan (EFE) -- Italian engineer Leandro Barozzi, who was accused in Italy of belonging to the "Red Brigades" has received a visa to remain in Colombia, where he has been a university professor for several years.

In a long legal dispute, Barozzi convinced the Supreme Court of Justice and the government to guarantee that he could remain in Colombia, free of interference from any authority.

A year ago Italian justice authorities asked Colombia to extradite the engineer so that Italy could try him for several crimes, but the Supreme Court said that the request was improperly processed and that the alleged crimes were political in nature.

The Italian took up residence in Cali with his wife Lia Lanzi and announced that he will continue working as professor at the Valle University.

GOVERNMENT TO EXPAND EDUCATIONAL TV BROADCASTS

PA172309 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Bogota -- The government will extend coverage of the Third Television Network to the entire country as a basic support tool for the educational television programs that the present administration has initiated.

Education Minister Jaime Arias Ramirez emphasized that a loan is currently being negotiated with the IDB for \$35 million to be used for this purpose. He indicated that through an agreement with Inravision [National Radio and Television Institute], the Third Television Network will cede some of its broadcast time for cultural and educational programs. Arias Ramirez acknowledged that, thanks to an agreement signed with Radio Sutatenza under which that radio station ceded 56 percent of its program time to the state, and with the support of the Third Television Network, as well as the cooperation of other private media, the basic structure has been set up for what has been called open education from a distance.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO PRC -- The government today appointed Congressman Alfonso Gomez Gomez ambassador to the PRC. [Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Jan 83 PA]

AMBASSADORIAL APPOINTMENTS -- The appointment of Liberal Senators Diego Uribe Vargas, Raul Orejuela and [former Senate President] Edmundo Lopez Gomez as ambassadors to France, Bulgaria and the Soviet Union by President Betancur has been well received and praised by political circles. The senators appointed to represent Colombia in these three European countries possess the best possible human qualities and executive talent. However, what is most important is that their appointment signals the president's determination to continue offering participation to the party that ranked second in the last elections. [Text] [Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Jan 83 PA]

DEFECTOR VOLUNTARILY RETURNS TO SOVIET UNION

PY181136 Paris APP in Spanish 0306 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] Lima, 14 Jan (AFP) -- It was learned here today that a Soviet sailor who had requested asylum in Peru last October has voluntarily decided to return to his country.

(Mylsapz Arklulov) had left a merchant ship at the port of Callao and requested political asylum in Peru. Yesterday before the representative of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, (Arklulov) signed a statement in which he expressed the desire to return to his country. Today, he left for Moscow aboard a Soviet airliner.

TERRORISTS, GUARDSMEN CLASH IN VARIOUS SECTORS

PY181803 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Republican Guard members engaged in another shootout with Shining Path subversives when the terrorists tried to blow up a relay station in Huancavelica. Several insurgents reportedly died during the clash. Huancavelica has not been declared in a state of emergency and it is not under control of military forces.

Radio America was told that an unidentified terrorist was shot dead and another terrorist was arrested during the clash, while the rest managed to escape. At the same time, it was learned in unofficial circles that 24 army commandos deserted from the service because they were against murdering Peruvian people in Ayacucho.

Mayor Threatened

PY181945 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Relay from Huancavelica]

[Excerpt] It was learned that the mayor of El Carmen, (Busqueda Abrigu Galvan), was threatened with death by the extremist groups that have been raiding farms and farming communities.

Reports from (Andahuaylas) Province state that the terrorists continue to carry out attacks in (Vilcay), where they are asking for (?contributions) and recruiting young peasants for the armed struggle. A group of 12 terrorists was said to be carrying out these activities in (Chacasuquio), (San Pablo de Orfo) and in other communities the day before yesterday. It was also confirmed that these terrorists come from Ayacucho and that they are hiding in isolated places which the police find difficult to control.

Local Governor 'Executed'

PY182252 Paris APP in Spanish 1814 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Lima, 18 Jan (AFP) -- Shining Path terrorists killed four civilians in two towns in Ayacucho, southeast of Lima, on Monday, while an extremist died in Huancavelica, it was reported here today.

A state of emergency has been declared in a new province of Huancavelica Department. This is the ninth Peruvian province where this measure has been enforced.

Meanwhile, it has been confirmed that between 10 and 17 terrorists, four of them women, died in a clash that took place in Cocharcas, Apurimac, 3 days ago and that Comrade Carla (Carlota Tello), a Shining Path female leader who had been reported dead in the clash, was seen in Chumbes, Ayacucho.

In Huamapuquio, Ayacucho, some 60 masked terrorists executed Governor Pascual Huamani, 33, and Deputy Governor Romualdo Huamani, 60, while the people watched. The two men were killed because they cooperated with the government.

In a hit-and-run action in the ramshackle town of Acomayo, Ayacucho, 30 other terrorists killed Albino Bejar and his brother Pedro, on charges of being police informers. The terrorists left after issuing threats to those who betray the people.

In Huancavelica, the Republican Guard repelled an attack launched by 10 men against a communications tower. One extremist was killed, another one was captured and the others fled.

Likewise, extremists also attacked the drinking water reservoir of the city of Ayacucho, where the Armed Forces political-military command has been established, but they were repelled by police. An investigation is being conducted into the death of a young man who was killed, apparently by accident, during the attack.

In Junin, a department bordering the Apurimac, Ayacucho and Huancavelica Departments to the north, Shining Path terrorists dynamited a microwave tower, paralyzing telephone and television services in several towns in the area.

It was also reported that a state of emergency has been declared in Acobamba Province, Huancavelica. Just as two other provinces in Huancavelica, one in Apurimac and five in Ayacucho, Acobamba has also been put under military rule.

Meanwhile, the authorities continue their efforts to identify the terrorists, numbering between 10 and 17, who died in Chincheros, where some 200 extremists attacked the Sinchis, the antisubversive police force.

According to official reports, it has not been confirmed whether Comrade Carla was killed during the action. It was unofficially reported that she was seen yesterday in Chumbes, Ayacucho, where she is being eagerly sought after because she is believed to be the successor of Edith Lagos, who was killed in a clash last year.

It was also learned that calm is returning to some Ayacucho towns that the police have already left, and that the Peruvian flag waves in their squares and that the people are choosing their authorities.

It was also reported that subversive placards reappeared in the city of Ayacucho, that the investigations police have released several suspects and that some 200 persons who were arrested during antisubversive operations are still being questioned.

HEAVY RAINS FORCE STATE OF EMERGENCY DECREE

PA171525 Havana in Quechua to Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru 2200 GMT 11 Jan 83

[Text] The government has decreed a state of emergency in several departments in Peru due to the heavy rains during the last few days.

\$400 MILLION IMF STANDBY LOAN NEGOTIATED

PY182142 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1935 GMT 11 Jan 83

[Text] Montevideo, 11 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- Official sources have stated that Uruguay has reached an agreement with the IMF and will receive a \$400 million standby loan. They added that the letter of intent will be signed before the end of the week.

The IMF technicians who worked in the country during the final stages of the negotiations returned to Washington this afternoon, the same sources stated. These sources termed the negotiations very successful.

Christian Brachet, director of the IMF delegation, stated in December that the loan was virtually granted and that the letter of intent only needs some readjustments. These negotiations were carried out during the past 7 days.

Uruguay will receive the loan in quarterly payments beginning in March. The terms of the agreement have been in effect since 1 January, Central Bank sources stated. Brachet stated that most of the amount to be granted will be paid back within 7 years at an annual interest rate very close to the current international rate.

The balance will be granted at an annual interest rate of 6.5 percent and this part of the credit must be paid back within 3 to 5 years. This difference in the terms is due to the fact that part of the loan will come from IMF's own funds and part from private credit sources.

GOVERNMENT CONDITIONS LANDING OF BRITISH PLANES

PY181708 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1125 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Montevideo, 17 Jan (TELAM-EFE) -- Uruguayan diplomatic sources noted today that the Uruguayan Government will only authorize British planes flying to the Malvinas to land in Uruguayan territory when Great Britain formally agrees to hold negotiations with Argentina.

The Uruguayan Government position is in keeping with Uruguay's traditional position regarding Argentina's rights over the Malvinas Islands.

Although neither the Uruguayan Government nor the British Embassy have confirmed that Uruguay has rejected the repeated request made by the UK Foreign Office, diplomatic sources agree that this is the reason why UK Ambassador Patricia Hutchinson has unexpectedly left for Great Britain.

The British ambassador left for London via Rio de Janeiro. During her stay in that city she refused to tell journalists why she had been summoned by her government. The officials who accompanied Ambassador Hutchinson to the airport only said that the ambassador is going to London for 2 weeks.

EFE was able to learn that the British ambassador is taking with her the Uruguayan Government's refusal. The UK Foreign Office had requested that the Uruguayan Government authorize British planes flying to the Malvinas to land at Montevideo. The sources added that London had made this request four times but that the Uruguayan Government conditions the operation of the planes to the start of negotiations with Argentina in keeping with what was established by the UN General Assembly.

PRESIDENT IMPLEMENTS EMERGENCY JOBS PROGRAM

FL182255 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2145 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 18 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- President Miguel de la Madrid this morning implemented the Emergency Plan for Protection of Jobs and Productive Factories with a budget investment of 400 billion pesos (some \$2,684,564,000) [figures as received] which should create and support between 500,000 and 700,000 jobs this year.

The announcement was made by Carlos Salinas de Gortari, Secretary of planning and budget, after meeting with the president of the republic at the official residence of Los Pinos.

The plan, whose details will be announced tomorrow at the government offices involved, basically seeks to avoid repeating the 8 percent unemployment rate reached in 1982.

CENTRAL BANK SETS NEW PESO EXCHANGE RATES

PA190337 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] The Bank of Mexico today announced the new exchange rates for the peso on the controlled foreign exchange market and on the special exchange rate market. The rates become effective tomorrow and will continue through 1 February.

In the official decree published today, the Bank of Mexico announced that the controlled exchange rate will be 98.90 pesos to buy and 99 pesos to sell as of tomorrow, 19 January. By 1 February the rates will rise to 100.59 pesos to buy and 100.69 pesos to sell.

As for the special exchange rate, the rate fixed for tomorrow is 74.20 pesos, to reach 77.20 pesos by early February.

The Bank of Mexico decree reiterates that the equivalent of our currency with respect to foreign currency will be estimated according to the present price of the U.S. dollar on the international market.

DOMINICAN FOREIGN MINISTER SEEKS L.A. SUMMIT

FL182358 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2305 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Mexico City, 18 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The Dominican Republic will ask Mexico to support a meeting of Latin American heads of state to study the Central American problem, Dominican Foreign Minister Jose Augusto Vega Imbert has stated.

Upon arrival here, the Dominican foreign minister said Mexico is at the forefront of democratic nations in Latin America. He said countries of the region ought to be more interested in stopping the violence prevailing in Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Honduras and Nicaragua. He added that only those heads of state interested in bringing peace to the Central American region should be seated at the negotiating table.

The Dominican foreign minister was accompanied by Ramon Albuquerque Ramirez, technical secretary of the presidency; Leopoldo Espallan Antia, president of the Dominican Oil Refinery; and Hatuey de Camps, secretary of state [of the presidency].

During his stay in Mexico until 20 January, Jose Augusto Vega will meet with President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado and with Mexico's Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor.

OPANAL CONCERNED OVER POSSIBLE UK FALKLANDS BASE

PA180326 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1849 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Mexico City, 17 Jan (EFE) -- The Organization for the Proscription of Nuclear Arms in Latin America (OPANAL) voiced here today its concern over Great Britain's alleged plan to set up an "offensive military base" in the Malvinas Islands.

OPANAL Executive Secretary Jose Martinez Cobo told EFE that the installation of an "offensive military base in the Malvinas Islands, equipped with nuclear weapons, would affect Argentina's security as well as peace in the South Atlantic." He added that OPANAL grew concerned after the alleged English plans were denounced at the recent non-aligned meeting in Managua, Nicaragua. Martinez Cobo said that in view of this concern over the reports from Managua, it is important to recall that the Malvinas are Latin American territory, where no nuclear arms should be deployed. He stressed that Great Britain signed and ratified the Additional Protocol No 1 of the Tlatelolco Treaty, thus committing itself to keeping its Latin American territories free of atomic weapons. The Tlatelolco Agreement, under which Latin America became a denuclearized region, bans the handling of all atomic elements in its geographic zone for belligerent purposes.

Ambassador Martinez Cobo added that Great Britain also signed and ratified the Additional Protocol No 2 of the Tlatelolco Treaty. He explained that under this protocol, Great Britain has pledged its respect for the Latin American peoples' sovereign decision to free themselves from the danger of atomic power used for belligerent purposes.

SECRETARIAT RELEASES QUEEN ELIZABETH'S ITINERARY

FL190235 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0130 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Mexico City, 18 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The Secretariat of Foreign Relations today announced the itinerary for the visit of England's Queen Elizabeth II scheduled for 17 to 24 February 1983.

The announcement stated that at 1500 local (2100 GMT) on 17 February President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado will welcome the queen at the port of Acapulco in the State of Guerrero and will host a banquet for her that evening. On 18 February, Queen Elizabeth II and British Foreign Minister Francis Pym will visit Plant No 2 of the Lazaro Cardenas Las Truchas Semistate Iron and Steel Enterprise in the State of Michoacan. On 20 February they will stop in Puerto Vallarta and will visit a senior citizens home, an orphanage and later will dine with President De la Madrid Hurtado. On 22 February, Queen Elizabeth and her delegation will be welcomed to La Paz, Baja California by a public rally organized by State Governor Alejandro Alvarado Aramburu. On 23 February they will remain in La Paz. Weather permitting, on 24 February they will visit the world's only whale sanctuary located in Guerrero Negro and then will leave Mexican soil to tour the Pacific of the United States and Canada.

PRESIDENT REPORTS ON TRIP TO VENEZUELA

PA190400 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] President Ricardo de la Espriella's trip to Caracas ended today with his return to Panama at 1525. The presidential plane landed in the Panamanian Air Force [FAP] terminal, where Vice-President Jorge Illueca and his wife Luzmila were awaiting him. Presidency Minister Dr Gabriel Castro and Health Minister Dr Gaspar García de Paredes were also on hand to receive him. Lt Col Elias Castillo was there on behalf of the National Guard General Staff. Traveling in the presidential plane were the president's wife, Mercedes de la Espriella; Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado III and his wife and Col Roberto Diaz Herrera, G-2 of the National Guard General Staff, and his wife.

At the FAP base, National Guard members paid military honors to the president, who immediately went on to a room where he reported on the results of his trip to Caracas to Televisora Nacional, Channel 2. Here are the president's remarks:

[Begin recording] [De la Espriella] Thank you, Luz Maria [Noli]. I think there have been positive results. I went to Venezuela out of the desire to expand the traditional friendly ties between our peoples and to discuss several issues of common interest with President Herrera, mostly bilateral issues. We also discussed Central American politics a bit, as well as Panama's local politics. Above all, we discussed the issue of bilateral trade. We signed a contract with Venezuela to sell them 10,000 calves, some dressed beef and a number of purebred cows of which our cattlemen now have an excess and for which Venezuela is a good market.

We also laid the groundwork for a sugar agreement with Venezuela. They promised to study this. As you know, we have a sugar surplus and during my trips abroad, I have been trying to find markets for this sugar.

In addition, we discussed the celebration of the bicentennial of liberator Simon Bolivar's birth. Several events will be held in Panama in cooperation with Venezuela.

Another topic of common interest discussed was the bridge over the canal, or the Simon Bolivar Bridge, which the Venezuelan Van Dam Company is currently building.

[Question] What was decided on this? This project has been discussed quite extensively here in Panama.

[Answer] The main problem that the government faces regarding this bridge over the canal is the burden that the loan needed to build it would put on our foreign debt. The offers to finance this bridge are good. They are soft loans; but because of our foreign debt and the current situation we are experiencing around the world and in Panama -- we can't escape it -- it is a bit difficult for us to be able to build the bridge. We therefore talked about the alternatives we have. We either continue building the bridge or we stop construction. Stopping construction would mean that the government would have to pay some debts that have already been acquired for the construction of this bridge. We always have to look at things positively, and the bridge is also a source of employment. If the Venezuelan Government, or rather, if we achieve a good agreement regarding this debt so as not to make our foreign debt so burdensome for the next few years, and if we can get a better grace period, then we may reach an adequate solution.

[Question] How was the renegotiation of the overall foreign debt of the Latin American countries approached during your visit to SELA? What is Panama's stand on this?

[Answer] Panama's stand has always been one of respect for the interdependency of peoples. Latin America truly has a high foreign debt with the industrialized countries; however, the characteristics of this debt are different for all our countries. I believe that unity creates power, but in the case of the debt and, since the characteristics are so different, it is very difficult to renegotiate on an overall basis.

[Question] The international press agencies reported that in the joint communique it was said Panama and Venezuela expect that by 1985 there will be peace in the area. How was this discussed?

[Answer] We signed no such thing; we did not mention dates. It is very difficult to set a deadline for matters which we do not govern. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT MEDIATES BETWEEN BANANA FIRM, UNION

PA170403 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 15 Jan 83 pp 1-A, 8-A

[Passage in upper case denotes boldface as published]

[Text] Jose G. Montenegro, labor and social welfare minister, met yesterday with the leaders of the Union of Chiriqui Land Company Workers [Sitrachilco] in order to continue the dialogue aimed at reaching an agreement between the company and the banana workers and bringing to an end the conflict which is not only harming both parties but also the nation's economy.

At the meeting, which was attended by Luis Anderson, deputy minister of labor and social welfare, and Rogelio Cruz, private secretary of the president of the republic, the labor minister was informed of the workers' willingness to return to their jobs, and also to work overtime, as well to abide by the company's regulations and instructions regarding packing. As a result of the meetings between the national government and the parties in conflict, the labor minister issued the following official communique:

COMMUNIQUE OF THE LABOR AND SOCIAL WELFARE MINISTRY

In view of the differing interpretations regarding the enforcement of the existing labor laws and the collective bargaining contract between the United Brands Company and the union (Sitrachilco), the banana area of Puerto Armuelles has experienced an almost complete paralyzation of banana production and export activities. This situation affects the nation's economy because we are on the verge of not being able to count on the banana operations on the Pacific and Atlantic.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare has constantly held talks with the parties in conflict in an effort to obtain a normalization of banana operations within a framework of strict compliance with the laws and contracts in force. The union has informed the Labor and Social Welfare Ministry of its willingness to resume work, including overtime hours, and to abide by the company's regulations and instructions on packing. In addition, the union has reiterated to the Labor and Social Welfare Ministry that it recognizes the company's right to freely manage its operations subject only to existing laws, the labor contract and other agreements.

The Labor and Social Welfare Ministry trusts that banana operations will be resumed Monday after the company receives a final response to queries it has submitted to its home office in New York. The Labor and Social Welfare Ministry informs citizens that it will continue to resort to constructive dialogue in order to serve the nation's best interests.

[Signed] Jose G. Montenegro, labor and social welfare minister

[Issued] Panama 14 January 1983

COSTA RICADEPUTIES REPORT CASTRO VIEWS ON NICARAGUA

PA190417 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0026 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Excerpt] San Jose, 18 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- According to sources close to the Costa Rican group that returned today from a 1-week trip to Cuba, President Fidel Castro is in favor of a dialogue between Costa Rica and Nicaragua to overcome the current problems between their two governments.

According to what ACAN-EFE has learned here, the Cuban president asked to be excused from interceding with the Sandinist government junta to put an end to the problems that the current administration has been having since 3 May 1982. Castro told the visiting Costa Rican deputies that he cannot intervene in the domestic affairs of other countries and that the problems between Costa Rica and Nicaragua must be solved by their leaders.

Castro added, however, that from what he knows of the situation, he could assert that Managua has no intention of attacking the Costa Rican people or of causing them any problems. Castro also told the visiting deputies that in Managua there is a feeling of gratitude toward Costa Rica.

In Havana, Castro met exclusively with the deputies in the group, excluding from the meeting the journalists, assembly employees and relatives of the deputies who were on the tour. Deputies David Fallas and Miguel Guillen of the official National Liberation Party say that their impression of Cuba is different from the image they had formed from the reports they usually read.

Most of the deputies returning today from Cuba stayed in Managua at the Sandinist government's invitation. The journalists and most of the relatives who accompanied them to Cuba also stayed in Managua.

EL SALVADORREBEL-OCCUPIED TOWN'S 'IMPORTANCE' DISCOUNTED

PA171515 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1300 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] [Intercepted in progress] ...to evacuate their families from Jocoaitique could not reach it. The authorities told them that subversives had occupied the town in the morning.

According to reports from Red Cross personnel and travelers who have arrived in San Salvador from Morazan Department, Jocoaitique was unprotected because its population had already left. Military sources confirmed this morning that the town had no protection because it was of no strategic importance.

REBELS INTERRUPT POWER IN EASTERN DEPARTMENTS

PA182222 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1300 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Report by Raul Beltran]

[Excerpt] It has been confirmed that, for the third time so far this year, and due to the damage to and sabotage of the high-tension wires that provide electricity to the eastern departments of La Union, San Miguel, Usulután and Morazan, more than 80 communities in these departments have been without this vital service since 2300 on Monday.

Spokesmen for the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission, CEL, have been unable to provide exact details about these blackouts, which have affected 10 of the country's 14 departments.

The report came in from the east earlier today confirming that, in effect, this vital service was completely suspended at 2300.

RADIO VENCEREMOS REPORTS ON FMLN ACTIVITIES

Villalobos Statement

PA150448 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Statement read by Commander Joaquin Villalobos, FMLN General Command member, containing "important information" for the Salvadoran people -- live or recorded]

[Text] The FMLN reports that at 0500 on this day, 14 January, columns of the FMLN's Rafael Antonio Arce Sabla Military Brigade on the Francisco Sanchez Eastern Front discovered, just when they were preparing to attack enemy positions at the Jocoaitique plant, the town of Jocoaitique and (Los Quebranchos) hill in Morazan department that the enemy had abandoned his positions before dawn.

As a result, our columns occupied all of the positions and Jocoaitique itself without resistance on the morning of 14 January. The town was under our forces' complete control by 1100. The enemy forces that abandoned their positions in Jocoaitique totaled 350 troops, equipped with 120-mm and 81-mm mortars, .50 cal machineguns and 90-mm cannon.

After San Francisco Gotera, Jocoaitique was the strongest and most important army position in Morazan Department and the most important in the country's northeast.

On 12 January our forces occupied Cacaopera, only 9 km from San Francisco Gotera. As a result, we recovered 45 weapons and 14,000 rounds of ammunition of various calibers. The enemy lost 32 dead, the majority of whom were national guardsmen, and 11 were taken prisoner and then immediately released. During this fighting, the army restricted its activities to the provision of air and artillery support for the surrounded troops, without moving any reinforcements to Cacaopera.

The enemy's withdrawal from Jocoaitique and its loss of positions near San Francisco Gotera are of great political and military significance in the progress of the war. We now cite some of the factors that prove this:

The army's serious morale situation is reflected in its abandonment of one of its most fortified positions without the slightest resistance.

There have been many desertions in the last few months in these places.

With the occupation of Jocoaitique, our forces control a total of 17 towns and cities in the country's northeast, plus the strategic positions at the San Carlos farm and Cacahuatique hill and the military airstrip of Monteca in northern La Union Department.

The cities in Morazan Department are Torola, San Fernando, Perquin, Arambala, Joateca, Villa Rosario, Cacaopera, (Diamaval) Sensembra, Guatajiagua, Corinto and Jocoaitique.

In northern San Miguel Department, we control Carolina, in northern La Union Department, we control Anamoros, [words indistinct], Nueva Esparta and (Poloros).

More than 100,000 persons live in these towns and the territories now under our control cover more than 1,200 square km, -- more than half of Morazan Department and a good portion of La Union Department.

A map of the country can be used to get a better idea of this. It will be noticed that we already have a large portion of liberated territory that is expanding further into the enemy's strategic centers in the country's east.

We have maintained the offensive against the enemy in Morazan Department since June 1982, when we completely defeated his last offensive against our area. On that occasion, the enemy even threw Honduran Army troops into the battle. The actions of the dictatorship's army have not since surpassed the level of air and artillery harassment in this department.

Many of the towns have been under our control for several months and the army either didn't try or has been unable to do anything to recover them. This foreshadows an end to the attack capability of the dictatorship's army. All it is carrying out now are sporadic harassment operations, along with great deal of propaganda, with false reports that no longer fool anyone.

If we add to this the deep schism within the army high command, which became evident with Colonel Ochoa's rebellion, our enemies' situation looks very difficult. The present conflicts between Garcia and Ochoa and the delay in appointing the new cabinet are clear results of our victories.

Only 5 days after our January Revolutionary Heroes campaign began, our forces in Chalatenango and Morazan have seized four towns and over 130 weapons, have killed over 150 army troops and taken 90 prisoners, while strong sabotage actions are being carried out in various points in San Salvador and other areas in the country. The enemy will not be able to withstand a pace like this. The dictatorship's army is near moral collapse.

Our forces are preparing to deal even stronger blows. We have not yet used all of our forces at a national level. We urge all honest soldiers, NCO's and enemy officers to reflect and ask themselves why they are fighting on the side of the dictatorship; whom they are defending and for whom they are sacrificing their lives; and whether it is worthwhile to die defending the interests of Garcia, Ochoa, Magana, the U.S. ambassador or D'Aubuisson, for they are the figures behind the poverty, the exploitation of the injustices committed against our people.

Honest soldiers, NCO's and officers, you still have time to avoid death and struggle for your children and your families by pointing your rifles in another direction. Do not fight us. Desert, disobey, join us and be part of the victory and not of the defeat. There is a place of honor for you within the people's ranks.

We urge the people to prepare for important and decisive battles in the next few days. The goals of our struggle are clear; a new economic order, true agrarian reform, a government that clearly represents the people's interests, a policy of full national sovereignty and a people's army to guarantee peace and justice.

Let those who believe they will stop our march toward victory with political maneuvers such as elections and farces not delude themselves. Our rifles will not stop firing until those objectives are fulfilled.

Our arms will never be laid down because they guarantee the people's interests. The entire people must join the militias and prepare for the great battles that are drawing near.

United to fight until final victory. Revolution or death, we will win. [Dated]
Francisco Morazan Front, Morazan, 14 January 1983

[Signed] Commander Jorge Melendez, Jonas; Commander Juan Ramon Medrano, Balta;
Commander Claudio Rabindranath Armijo, Chico; Commander Ana Sonia Median, Mariana; and
Commander Joaquin Villalobos

U.S. Policy Criticized

PA131337 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Station Commentary]

[Text] We are at war to rescue our fatherland's sovereignty and independence, and we shall never give up that purpose. At the beginning of the present century when the Salvadoran oligarchy realized the need to extend the lines of communication toward the ports of the country to increase the flow of export products, basically coffee, a U.S. company, the International Railway of Central America, IRCA, was granted the concession for the construction of railways. IRCA and its huge capital constituted the first move toward the economic, and consequently political and cultural domination of our country by U.S. imperialism.

U.S. monopolies began to control the weak economy of our nation, including its internal and external trade. The United States is the main buyer of Salvadoran coffee and at the same time is the main, perhaps the exclusive, supplier of Salvadoran imports. Because of this, the United States is in a position to fix the prices of the coffee we produce and even to decide which countries we should sell our coffee to, and thus control our industrial development and establish a situation similar to that imposed during Spanish colonial times. Such control has given U.S. imperialism the ability to determine the internal and external policies of the successive dictatorships imposed on our country.

The neocolonialist domination over our country became more and more evident. We all remember the humiliating photos published in the local papers showing the Yankee Marines marching and displaying the U.S. flag in the Constituent Assembly Hall. That, however, is practically nothing compared to the fact that U.S. officers -- so-called advisers -- should be the ones directing the war against our people, and that Deane Hinton, U.S. ambassador and representative of imperialism, should be the director of the policy to be carried out by the dictatorship. Deane Hinton is the architect--and a poor one, at that--of the Apaneca pact. The ultrarights accuse Hinton of being a proconsul and interventionist when he comments on the massacre of 31 Salvadorans. They remain silent, however, concerning the joint military plans of the Salvadoran and Honduran armies, directed by Wallace Nutting, to attack our people.

That is easy to understand because it is the ultraright and its governments who have mortgaged our country to the U.S. monopolies and banks. In our country -- and this is not an exaggeration -- every child born owes \$240 to U.S. banks.

Cultural domination is also depressing when we observe that our radio stations have forgotten our music and folklore to transmit almost entirely North American music. Ninety percent of the television serials are North American. The oligarchy has changed the traditional [word indistinct] for the U.S. Halloween. In some sectors of San Salvador, English is the language spoken.

It could be said that the Salvadoran capital is not San Salvador but Washington, because it is there where our country's internal policies are determined. It is at the State Department where our foreign policy is designed. The latest fashion in our country are determined by the New York stores, and Wall Street rules our country's economic activities. The U.S. musical and movie studios design our cultural life. Even the war against our country is directed from the Pentagon.

That is why we are at war; to recover our sovereignty and independence. And as long as our country continues being a neocolony we will never put down our arms. We ask, who is to guarantee the independence and sovereignty of our homeland? Those who permitted the entry of foreign troops into our territory to attack our people? Those who are begging for more arms, planes and funds to continue the war against our people? Those who have permitted our country to be reduced to the mere category of a backyard? Not at all!

Only when we bury the dictatorship and establish a government of broad national participation will we become a sovereign and independent nation. Only then will we be free to establish relations based on mutual respect with all nations of the world. Only then will we proudly intone the notes of our national anthem and our blue and white flag fly sovereign. Our militias fight to rescue our country's sovereignty and independence.

Northeastern Front Actions

PA131522 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 13 Jan 83

[War bulletin released by the Northeastern Francisco Sanchez Front in Morazan on 12 January, read by Commander Jorge Melendez]

[Text] We notify the Salvadoran people that today, 12 December 1983 [as heard], our forces seized the town of Cacaopera, in Morazan Department. The town was being defended by 20 national guardsmen and 30 members of paramilitary organizations, a total of 50 armed men.

The attack began at 0445, and by 0730 the key control positions had already been seized. At 1115 the enemy was dislodged from all its positions and heavy fighting ensued, as a result of which a good many of them were eliminated and 11 of them were captured.

The total results of this operation follows: 31 G-3 rifles recovered, as well as 6 M-1 carbines, 5 Czechoslovak rifles, 1 .22-cal rifle, 118 military uniforms and a large amount of ammunition. A total of 11 prisoners were captured and 10 national guardsmen and 1 commander were killed. On our part, one of our combatants was slightly injured. Commanders (Eleno Castro), also known as (Carmelo), and (Tono) commanded this operation. Commanders (Walter) and (Angel) led our forces.

With this operation, the Northeastern Francisco Sanchez Front has participated in the Revolutionary Heroes of January campaign.

Cacaopera is located 9 km from the command garrison of San Francisco Gotera, and only 4 km from Yoloaiquin and 5 km from Delicias de Concepcion and Lolotiquillo, all positions controlled by the enemy. However, the dictatorship's army did not send in reinforcements. It only provided support in the form of artillery fire and through the air force. This lack of mobilization by the army reflects battered morale and incapacity. It also shows that the army does not care about the lives of the soldiers and national guardsmen stationed in these towns.

For our part, we reaffirm our confidence in victory. We urge the Salvadoran people to join their revolutionary army and participate massively in the combative actions of the people's militias. Revolution or death, we will win. [Signed] General command of the Northeastern Francisco Sanchez Front Commanders (Jonas), (Balta), (Francisco)

Town Seized in Morazan

PA171300 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 17 Jan 83

[FMLN war bulletin issued in Morazan on 16 January 1983 — read by Commander Joaquin Villalobos]

[Text] The FMLN reports that after 14 January, when columns of the FMLN's (Rafael Antonio Arze) military brigade (?located) in the country's northeast seized the town of Jocoaitique, our forces immediately continued their advance toward enemy positions in Morazan Department.

Today, 16 January at 0445, our columns occupied positions on Cerro (Moyol), northeast of the town of Meanguera, and on Cerro Coyol, southeast of the Meanguera bridge, thereby controlling the road from Gotera to the northern section of the department. Thus, all enemy positions in the Meanguera area and surrounding hills have been encircled.

After abandoning its strategic positions in Jocoaitique on 14 January, the demoralized enemy reinforced the Meanguera area, which was the closest to Jocoaitique, at Cerro (Moyol) and Cerro (de la Muerte) north of Meanguera, the town of Meanguera, the Meanguera bridge over the Torola River and Cerro el Tigre. It deployed in those positions over three companies, comprising some 450 men with 90-mm cannon and 81-mm and 60-mm mortars.

During the first 15 minutes of combat, which began at 0500, the enemy, without putting up much resistance, fled from Cerro (Moyol) and our forces occupied their positions. At 1000, an A-37 plane and an AU-2 [as heard] light reconnaissance plane harassed some of our positions with no effect.

Our forces resumed their advance at 1100 and attacked positions on Cerro (de la Muerte) and in the vicinity of Meanguera. At the same time, forces of our support units attacked the enemy positions at the Meanguera bridge and Cerro (el Tigre) with 81-mm and 120-mm mortars. At 1130 the enemy began, in a disorderly manner and without putting up much resistance, to abandon its positions in the town of Meanguera, Cerro (de la Muerte), the Meanguera bridge and Cerro (el Tigre). At 1200, enemy reinforcements moving along the road from Gotera to Meanguera clashed with our positions at Cerro Coyol. Those forces withdrew immediately to the town of Osicala and did not try to advance any further.

At 1215, the enemy abandoned all positions without any coordination, in small groups and by different routes, making maximum efforts to avoid clashing with our forces. At that same time, our forces entered Meanguera and began chasing the enemy forces which were fleeing in various directions. Our forces have continued chasing scattered groups of enemy forces.

At 1600, two AU-2 planes harassed some of our positions without significant results. By 1923 today, we obtained the following results; we seized 24 G-3 and M-16 rifles, 1 M-60 machinegun with 1,400 rounds, a 90-mm cannon with 36 shells, 14 70-mm mortar grenades, 2 PRC-77 radios, 1 officer's Browning pistol and several thousand rounds of ammunition.

Thus far, 11 enemy troops have been reported killed and 8 have been taken prisoner. Included among the dead is Lt (Manuel Antonio Viera Corea), who clashed with one of our patrols while fleeing with a few soldiers toward Osicala.

There were still reports at 1732 of scattered fighting with enemy troops in the area. We will report on the results later. The enemy instructed the soldiers to throw away, hide or destroy their ammunition as they withdrew. During their flight, the soldiers set fire at the Meanguera Bridge to a vehicle carrying 1 81-mm mortar, 1 60-mm mortar, 1 90-mm cannon, a large number of rounds for these weapons and rifle ammunition.

At 1740, we received intelligence reports to the effect that troops from the Atonal Battalion and a company of the Ramon Belloso Battalion were heading toward Morazan to try to establish a defense line in the enemy positions. With the seizure of Meanguera, the number of towns under our forces' control in the country's northeast has increased to 18, thereby extending the liberated territories even further. Our forces are already in control of all positions north of the Torola River over the highway and some in the south of that department.

We ask our people to be on the watch for our reports on the development of the fights in the next few days. We reiterate our appeal to the soldiers and officers of the national army not to fight our forces and to desert from the army. There is an honorable place for them among the people's ranks.

United to fight until final victory! Revolution or death, we will win! [Signed] Commander Jorge Melendez, Jonas; Commander Juan Ramon Medrano, Baltac; Commander Claudio Rabindranath Armijo, Chico; Commander Ana Sonia Medina Arriola, Mariana; Commander Joaquin Villalobos

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT TO APPOINT COMMISSION TO BELIZE TALKS

PA172250 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 17 Jan 83 p 4

[EXcerpt] Later this week the Guatemalan Government will appoint the commission that will participate in the round of negotiations on the Belize issue. The negotiations are scheduled to open 24 January in New York.

Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola has told the media that Guatemala will negotiate the solution to this problem directly with the United Kingdom but that Belizean Government representatives will be present at the meeting as observers.

Castillo Arriola explained that a few days prior to these talks with the United Kingdom, the government will announce the Guatemalan position in detail.

GUERRILLAS JAM RIOS MONTT'S SUNDAY MESSAGE

PA181642 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0050 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Guatemala, 17 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The Guatemalan evening paper LA RAZON today reports that members of the Armed Peoples Revolutionary Organization (ORPA), last night jammed several radio stations during President Efraim Rios Montt's usual Sunday message.

Quoting police sources, the paper points out that security forces are carrying out special operations to locate the equipment that the guerrillas are using to interrupt normal broadcasts.

Last week some six radio stations were subjected to such interference. During the broadcasts, ORPA issued antigovernment messages that strongly criticized the government's security forces.

The most notable of these actions took place last night when several radio stations which had joined the national government network to broadcast President Rios Montt's message were jammed. A female guerrilla was heard instead of the president.

NICARAGUA

DEPENDENCE ON U.S. SUGAR MARKET SEEN ENDED

PA181838 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Three years after the revolution, Nicaragua has been able to become independent on the U.S. sugar market. In the past, 100 percent of its sugar exports went to the United States. Today, only 43 percent is exported there, while the rest goes to new markets, including Mexico and Arab, Nordic and socialist countries.

In 1979, Nicaragua's sugar production totalled 3.5 million quintals, of which 1.7 million quintals, equivalent to 100 percent of the sugar exports, went to the United States. As a result, the country was totally dependent on the U.S. market. However, this dependence has been broken by the revolutionary government's success in finding new markets for its main exports.

POLITICAL PARTIES BILL DISCUSSION TO CONTINUE

PA151912 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] The discussion of the political parties bill will continue even without the participation of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board, Gustavo Tablada, leader of the Patriotic Front of the Revolution, FPR, said. In Tablada's opinion, the discussion of the political parties bill will continue as planned despite the absence of the two parties of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board.

The FPR is a coalition formed by the Independent Liberal Party, the Nicaraguan Socialist Party, the Social Christian Party and the Sandinist National Liberal Front. Tablada, leader of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party, PSN, said that the seminar to study the political parties bill will be held on 24 January at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua. The institutionalization process is not going to stop just because the parties of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board have refused to attend the seminar. No one can stop the revolutionary process, Tabalada indicated.

Breakdown of Parties' Front Denied

PA160052 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] Yesterday, Luis Sanchez Sancho, secretary general of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party, PSN, categorically denied the disintegration of the Patriotic Front of the Revolution, FPR, to form another coalition among the Independent Liberal Party, the Nicaraguan Socialist Party and the Democratic Conservative Party.

The rumor that these parties had abandoned the FPR was started by local reactionary sectors and later disseminated by the transnational news media. Sanchez said that this rumor is a maneuver to try to confuse local and international public opinion regarding the real situation within the revolutionary forces and process.

Sanchez added that this is related to the slanderous document which the U.S. Embassy issued to the delegates to the Nonaligned Movement Coordinating Bureau meeting. Furthermore, he said, such rumors are related to the statement by the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Front which, on the basis of false charges, announced that it was withdrawing from the discussion on the political parties bill.

CAPTURED COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES MEET PRESS

PA142239 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Lt Oscar Loza, chief of state security operations, has revealed the counter-revolutionaries' most recent conspiracies, which are endorsed by Honduras. Four prisoners were also introduced.

[Begin Loza recording] In 1982, the Somozist bands underwent marked changes in their organization, weapons and training. Thus, dispersed and ill-equipped groups gradually became veritable military detachments, supplied with modern weapons and means of transportation and communication and directly advised by both the CIA and the Honduran Army. The latter even performs rear guard duties when these detachments enter our territory. [end recording]

The chief of state security's military intelligence operations later introduced Juan Ramon Urey Osorio, a member of the so-called Nicaraguan Democratic Forces, FDN, captured on 8 December when he and a group entered Nicaraguan territory from Honduras to prepare the so-called agricultural operation, intended to boycott the harvesting and marketing of basic grains. Urey Osorio answered the newsmen's questions:

[Begin Urey Osorio recording] [Words indistinct] attack. The cooperation between the U.S. Government and the current Honduran Government is very clear, economic and military aid [words indistinct] In other words, the U.S. Government is fostering an arms buildup in order to shed blood here in Nicaragua. [end recording]

Militiaman (Constantino Espinosa Aguilera) was also introduced to local and foreign newsmen. He was captured by counterrevolutionaries on 24 July 1982, when the massacre of San Francisco del Norte was perpetrated, causing the death of 15 militiamen and injuries to 7 other people, including (Brenda Rocha).

(Espinosa) entered our country with a counterrevolutionary group known as (Charlis) composed of 32 elements, who were to carry out the agricultural operation activities. (Espinosa) took advantage of this development to stay in Nicaraguan territory.

Former Honduran Corporal (Carlos Alberto Izaguirre Umanzor) was also introduced. He revealed the atrocities committed by the counterrevolutionaries, as well as details of the Honduran Army's cooperation.

Finally, Lieutenant Loza introduced Martin Pena Gadea, who was captured while entering Nicaraguan territory with C-4 plastic explosives and TNT. Gadea, 18, was born in Managua. He too confirmed Honduras' support for the counterrevolutionaries.

Local and foreign newsmen then had the chance to look at the large amount of U.S. weapons used by the counterrevolution since late 1982 in their effort to overthrow the people's government. The United States sends these sophisticated weapons which no Central American army owns, to repressive governments so that they can curb the liberation movements.

FDN SETS DEADLINE FOR SANDINIST GOVERNMENT

PA150048 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2258 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Caracas, 14 Jan (EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) has given the Sandinist government 15 days to accept a 12-point proposal in exchange for the "immediate suspension" of the current FDN paramilitary actions in Nicaragua. This is stated in a document distributed today at a news conference in Caracas by Marco Zeledon and Lucia de Salazar, members of the FDN Directorate.

The FDN proposals call for a general amnesty, annulment of the national emergency law, expulsion of the internationalists and elections for a constituent assembly prior to September 1983. "The Sandinist government may undervalue this FDN initiative," Zeledon said, "but if it does not accept the points mentioned within the established deadline, escalation of the FDN's paramilitary activities in Nicaragua will continue."

He explained that the FDN is a nationalist movement comprised of citizens of various socioeconomic strata and with democratic political ideologies, who can be described as "center-rightist." In answer to several questions, he said his organization receives no support from either the United States or any other nation, affirming that "no more than 3.5 percent" of the paramilitary forces currently active in Nicaragua are former Somozist National Guard members.

FDN Members Request Dialogue

PA181428 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1947 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] San Jose, 17 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Members of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force's (FDN) Directorate today launched a call from San Jose for all European and American governments to support the pactification of their country. Alfonso Callejas, Edgard Chamorro Cardenal, Enrique Bermudez, Lucia Cardenal de Salazar, Indalecio Rodriguez and Marco Zeledon are in San Jose to request support from Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge.

The opposers of Sandinism have announced that they will negotiate with the governments of France, Mexico, Venezuela and Panama. They want these governments to suggest to the Managua rulers the same dialogue proposal they made for El Salvador.

The FDN delegation will travel to Panama tomorrow, from whence it will visit Venezuela and Colombia to give their governments a copy of the dialogue request they gave the Nicaraguan junta 3 days ago. The delegation has warned that this request for peace is "the last resort to try to avoid armed confrontation," and is intended to establish political pluralism, freedom and democracy, as was offered during the revolution that overthrew Somoza. The FDN solution includes expulsion of foreign "internationalists," invalidation of the national emergency law that has brought about a state of siege, a general amnesty, abolition of all laws that infringe upon human rights, dissolution of repressive institutions and a halt to religious persecution.

LA PRENSA EDITOR DECRIES JUNTA CENSORSHIP

PM141517 Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 5 Jan 83 p 12

[Interview with Pedro J. Chamorro, editor of Nicaraguan daily LA PRENSA, by Joaquin Ibarz in Managua; date not specified]

[Excerpt] Managua -- Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, son of the martyr of Nicaraguan journalism, is the most controversial person in Nicaragua.

He has, from his post as editor of LA PRENSA, gained the respect of an influential sector of Nicaraguan society — those who do not identify with the revolutionary process — while attracting the hostility of all Sandinistas, starting with members of the government junta.

As we entered his office he immediately started talking to us about the many reports and articles that had been censored in that day's edition. He was like a whirlwind and barely gave one time to assimilate what he was saying. He tried to set the pace for the interview because his irritation is undiminished despite the fact that he has been suffering this censorship every day since March.

"Look, look, all this has been censored from today's edition. From this headline: 'Minister Lists Three Successes in Education,' they want us to remove the word 'three' because they maintain that it implies that there have been only three successes. What we are doing is canceling both the headline and the report, because we do not accept censorship, which implies manipulation of the news content."

He read aloud more of the items censored: "Skull Crushed by Bus," "Corn Arrives From United States" ("they do not want it to be said that Washington is helping us"), "Prisoner Released After 21 Years in Cuba," "Welcome Committee for John Paul II Being Organized," "Radio Catolica Forbidden to Discuss Pope's Visit."

[Chamorro] "They censored stupid things, copies that have absolutely nothing to do with state security. For instance, we were going to publish the EFE [Spanish News Agency] account of the ceremony at the Ruben Dario Theater, but they censored our attribution to Humberto Ortega of the very words that he spoke. They wanted his remarks to appear to be EFE's own opinion. So we removed the entire paragraph. Look. Here they have removed the word 'firemen' and want us to print the acronym of the organization that they have created, SINACOI [expansion unknown] which nobody would understand. We will drop the entire item. Here the headline read: 'Kremlin Angry' and the subhead: 'Powers Demand Withdrawal From Afghanistan.' They have removed the headline and left the subhead, which we have changed into the main headline, and it looks better. Look at this nonsense: They censored 'Tamales Beat Chicken' (you cannot report that over Christmas people could not buy chicken because of high prices and had to make do with cheaper food). A few days ago they removed the word 'another' from our headline: 'Another Drowning.' It is all like that. They want to give an unrealistic image of the country in which it is impossible for anything to fail and people cannot drown."

[Question] Despite the censorship, the general content of LA PRENSA still seems frankly hostile toward the process. It gives the impression that you select only news items that can cause annoyance.

[Answer] We are critical about everything. We do not seek only negative things, but neither do we have any incentive to publish positive things.

[Question] Why does LA PRENSA use EFE to report an event in Managua such as an important speech by Commander Humberto Ortega?

[Answer] We might have been forgotten. Since it took place in the evening....

[Question] Why does LA PRENSA not report the attacks of the Somozaist gangs and the assassinations of peasants?

[Answer] We print only official communiques to avoid trouble. If we were free to visit the camps on both sides of the border....

[Question] Would you go?

[Answer] Perhaps nobody would go, because editors are afraid. But we are not allowed to.

[Question] What is LA PRENSA's stance on the attacks and assassinations carried out by gangs that cross the Honduran border?

[Answer] When an attack takes place we publish only the official communique. If there is a terrorist attack, obviously we condemn it, as we did the killings at San Francisco del Norte.

[Question] The Sandinistas accuse LA PRENSA of becoming more and more the spokesman for the counterrevolution....

[Answer] How can it be a spokesman if it cannot speak out: Even if it wanted to, it could not. It may agree with part of the policy line of Eden Pastora or Robelo. Those politicians, who are outside the country, are Nicaraguans and some of them belonged to this government. They are dissidents, Sandinistas, but they did not agree with the line pursued by the so-called process. There are ministers and ambassadors that have left because they did not identify with the present policy.

[Question] On one occasion you said that Nicaragua is fast approaching Cubanization....

[Answer] I do not use the word Cubanization: I do not like it. I can say that there is an approach toward totalitarianism and that the Cuban advisers exert a major influence within this process. Judging from the items that I have had censored, I can say that they have surrendered to Cuba and the USSR. Today they even censored a caricature of Yasir 'Arafat drawn by a famous WASHINGTON POST cartoonist. The degree of submissiveness that they have reached is horrifying. I would like to believe that the person who exercises the censorship is stupid, but he receives very clear instructions and examines everything.

[Question] Do you grant the revolution any successes?

[Answer] We have supported the major changes, such as the antidelinquency campaign, the agrarian reform and the improvements in health and education. But we acknowledge the achievements critically. For instance, we cannot accept the abuses committed in the name of the agrarian reform. But I do not like the present government at all: We oppose it.

[Question] Do you believe they could go as far as to close down LA PRENSA?

[Answer] The newspaper's life hangs by a thread. The last time we were closed down temporarily, in November 1981, we were told that the next time would be for good. Since there is censorship now, there would be no justification for it. Previously we had a team of internal censors to prevent shutdowns.

When prior censorship was introduced we dissolved it. Now that they are carrying out censorship, we are not going to do their job for them. The worst thing about the laws that they have decreed is that they are designed to eliminate freedom of expression, not to limit it. The problem arises not when someone breaks the laws, but when the state decides to implement them.

[Question] Has LA PRENSA's circulation fallen as a result of censorship?

[Answer] I must admit that it has. Previously our circulation was about 70,000 and now we vary from 50,000-55,000. It is logical for people to lose interest in the paper because we can hardly say anything -- just look at today's issue. Out of a total of 12 pages they have cut the equivalent of 3. All this despite the delay in the process. But we are prepared to lose everything.

[Question] How many of those working for LA PRENSA did so when your father was editor?

[Answer] Some 25 percent. Some left the country, others went to work for NUEVO DIARIO, when my uncle, the editor, Javier, left.

[Question] Why did this split occur?

[Answer] It is a very long story which it would take a long time to explain.

[Question] LA PRENSA is accused of being the refuge of Somozaist journalists....

[Answer] Yes, I know what they say. But the Somozaists are elsewhere. Look at this item by Manuel Eugarríos, chief editor of NUEVO DAÍRO. It dates from 11 September 1966 and as you can see it includes things such as this: "Because Somoza has well defined his liberal ideology, which is the political philosophy of free men." And this, which is no less interesting: "Somoza helped the people through the social action of the national guard." I like to have charges leveled at me because it exercises the mind.

EL SALVADOR

LATE REPORT: FMLN ORDERS CLOSURE OF ALL ROADS

PA191156 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Communique released by the FMLN General Staff in El Salvador on 18 January -- read by announcer]

[Text] The FMLN communicates:

1. That our forces are fighting heavily in Morazan Department against thousands of men from the Atlacatl, Belloso and Atonal battalions, and 3d Infantry Brigade sappers;
2. That due to this situation, we have decided to put all our forces on a state of nationwide alert, in order to deal a blow to the enemy wherever possible;
3. That in this connection, the control or obstruction of roads is one of our forces' means of preventing enemy reinforcement of positions attacked by our forces;
4. That in order to guarantee the fulfillment of the missions assigned to our units, curbing enemy's mobilization along the various roads, the FMLN has decided the following:
 - A. That it must order the suspension of the use of all vehicles, whether private, commercial or official, on any of our country's roads;
 - B. That this temporary provision will go into effect at 1800 on Wednesday, 19 January, and will be suspended once it is felt the proposed goals have been achieved. The FMLN will announce the suspension of this measure through its official organs;
 - C. That all vehicles violating this provision will be stopped by our forces and destroyed.
5. That everyone must be urged, particularly vehicle owners, to heed this provision and abstain from driving on the roads. Within the framework of our country's current war situation, we will resort to any measure deemed necessary to sabotage, curb and deal blows to the dictatorship's forces;
6. That all FMLN military units and militias are to put this provision into effect throughout the country and to keep it in effect until new orders are received.

[Dated] 18 January 1983, year of great battles for national liberation [Signed] Commander Joaquín Villalobos, Commander Jorge Melendez, Commander Juan Ramon Medrano, Commander Claudio Rabindranath Armijo, Commander Ana Sonia Medina. United to fight until final victory! Revolution or death, we will win!

COSTA RICAN DEPUTIES MEET CASTRO, END VISIT

PA181505 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1357 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Havana, 18 Jan (EFE) -- The visit to Cuba by a group of 17 Costa Rican deputies ended last night with a "cordial" meeting with Cuban leader Fidel Castro followed by an official reception.

The group -- composed of 60 people, including deputies, officials of the Legislative Assembly and relatives -- left Havana's Jose Marti Airport early today for Managua, where they will board a connecting flight to San Jose.

The eight deputies from the ruling National Liberation Party [PLN], five from the Unity Coalition, three from the communist Popular Vanguard Party and three independents arrived in Havana on Monday, 10 January. [figures as received]

According to an official communique, their over 2-hour long meeting with Fidel Castro "was held in a cordial atmosphere of mutual respect." "Aspects of Latin America's political, economic and social situation were analyzed."

At a reception that President of the National Assembly of the People's Government Flavio Bravo held for the deputies after their meeting with the Cuban leader, the Costa Rican representatives told EFE that their lengthy visit and their meeting with Fidel Castro were "very positive."

In regard to a letter that the deputies of the ruling Costa Rican party were going to deliver to the Cuban president, one of them told EFE that "it was delivered through the appropriate channel and was only commented upon during the meeting."

The letter "asked Fidel Castro to undertake conciliatory efforts with Nicaragua's leaders in regard to their relations with Costa Rica" but the Cuban president, they said, indicated that "this was a bilateral subject and that he was sure that both governments have sufficient capacity and maturity to engage in dialogue."

Another deputy described this response as Fidel Castro's "indirect and courteous refusal" to get involved in the affairs of other countries, "as some members of the PLN, the only ones who sponsored the letter, were apparently requesting."

On a possible reestablishment of relations, which were broken in May 1981 when the Rodrigo Carazo government decided to suspend consular relations, the level of relations that then existed between Cuba and Costa Rica, several deputies told EFE that their opinion "was very favorable."

One of the PLN representatives who is close to President Luis Alberto Monge indicated that "the renewal of some ties, even if simply to deal with cultural relations, would be very useful; I will propose this."

During their stay on the island, the deputies met with Jose R. Fernandez, vice president of the Council of Ministers and education minister; and Manuel Pineiro, head of the Americas Department in the Communist Party of Cuba, among others, and they visited many industrial development, educational and health centers.

This trip was announced and postponed several times, the result, according to opposition deputies, of "pressures from the executive branch." It was finally made with fewer participants than originally expected.

CASTRO SENDS GREETINGS TO KAMPUCHEAN LEADERS

BK170539 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0409 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Phnom Penh, 17 Jan (SPK) -- On the occasion of the fourth National Day (7 January), Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and President of the Councils of State and Ministers, sent his "warmest congratulations" to Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State; and to Chan Si, chairman of the Council of Ministers.

In his message, Fidel Castro said:

"Under the leadership of their vanguard, the KPRP and the Kampuchean people have achieved important successes in the defense of their revolutionary gains and have advanced with firm steps toward socialism. At the sides of their brothers in Vietnam and Laos, they will continue to overcome difficulties and firmly maintain their policy of peace, stability, and fraternal cooperation."

On the same occasion, Isidoro Malmierca, Cuban minister of foreign relations, also sent a congratulatory message to his Kampuchean counterpart, Hun Sen.

ALMEIDA PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT TO MAURITIUS

For AFP coverage of Vice President Juan Almeida Bosque's official visit to Mauritius see the 18 January Southern Africa section of the Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT.

CSSR INTERIOR MINISTRY DELEGATION ARRIVES

LD181102 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0600 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Cuba: A delegation of the Czechoslovak Interior Ministry, led by Minister Jaromir Obzina, arrived in Havana yesterday for a working visit which is to last several days.

MALMIERCA ON NONALIGNED MEETING RESULTS

PA181351 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has said that the Managua nonaligned ministerial meeting demonstrates the importance that the movement attaches to the region's problems and to the peoples' struggle to achieve real independence, in some cases, and to consolidate and develop such independence in others. In an interview granted to Radio Havana, Malmierca stressed that the selection of Managua as the site of the meeting reflects that fact and the need to clearly demonstrate the movement's solidarity with the Sandinist revolution at a time when attacks on Nicaragua have intensified.

The Cuban foreign minister added that the final document very clearly charges, as on previous occasions, that imperialist interference and exploitation are the cause of the serious situation in the area, while also pointing out the path that must be taken to resolve Central America's problems.

Malmierca said that, in terms of El Salvador and Nicaragua, the Nonaligned Movement supports all efforts to secure negotiations that can promote just solutions, based on respect for the peoples' rights. In the case of El Salvador, he added, the Managua declaration indicates that the proposals presented by the FMLN and Revolutionary Democratic Front deserve the movement's recognition. He stressed that the proposals of France and Mexico, Venezuela and Mexico and others deserve the same interest, as long as the participation of the Salvadoran revolutionary forces and other representative forces is included.

Isidoro Malmierca emphasized that the document indicates that the imperialist presence in the area must end if the path to a possible solution is to be opened, as we are facing a true escalation of U.S. interference in El Salvador, with the danger that open intervention will take place. Malmierca indicated that the development of the Salvadoran situation is becoming increasingly clear, as the revolutionary forces' activity is more intense and successful and the defeats inflicted on the already demoralized Salvadoran Army, which is trained and directed by the United States, are increasing.

I think, Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca said, that negotiations are urgently required to achieve peace and to prevent the imperialist goal of regionalizing the conflict, the grave effects of which would go beyond Central America, for no one knows what impacts that would have. Malmierca praised Mexico's efforts in this context, while describing as positive the fact that in their recent Contadora Island meeting the foreign ministers of Panama, Colombia, Venezuela and Mexico expressed opposition to any linkage between the Central American crisis and the so-called East-West conflict.

Referring to the upcoming nonaligned summit in New Delhi, Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca assured Radio Havana that preparations for it are advancing and that India is about to present the draft of the final declaration. He said that given the complex international situation, the New Delhi meeting should give special importance to the struggle to defend peace, to halt the arms race and to prevent the policy of confrontation from continuing its negative influence on international relations. Malmierca said that the New Delhi summit in March should include discussion of the serious capitalist economic crisis, because of its grave effects on the peoples of the so-called Third World. Referring to Cuban President Fidel Castro's statement that without development there can be no peace and without peace there can be no development, Malmierca said that as these two subjects are so closely linked to current international relations, they will be the subjects of deep analysis at the nonaligned summit.

Later, the Cuban foreign minister charged that countries outside the movement are promoting the participation of the Pol Pot clique in the seventh summit, which constitutes open interference in nonaligned activities. He stressed that in one way or another, the great majority of nonaligned member nations have rejected these attempts, because nothing can justify the presence in New Delhi of those who have been responsible for the murder of millions of Kampucheans.

In another part of his interview, Cuban Foreign Minister Malmierca said that the Palestinian issue must be resolved if the Middle East conflict is to be ended. There will be no peace in that region as long as the right of the Palestinian people, led by the Palestine Liberation Organization, PLO, to return to their territory, to establish an independent state and to receive compensation for the damage suffered as a result of Israeli aggression is not recognized, Malmierca stressed. He added: The Israeli troops are still in Lebanon and it is a known fact that the United States is trying to perpetuate that occupation and to prepare new attacks on other Arab countries from Lebanon. That is why we think, Foreign Minister Malmierca stressed, that any solution to the Middle East problem must be based on respect for the nonalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

THATCHER'S TRIP TO FALKLANDS CRITICIZED

PA141824 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Jan 83

["World Events" commentary read by Angel Hernandez]

[Text] With absolute disregard for international public opinion and the Latin American countries, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has carried out a new adventure in the South Atlantic.

This time it was not a warmongering action but a political-diplomatic maneuver. However, both things are based on the same objective: the strengthening of her damaged prestige with an eye to the next elections.

The British prime minister has given herself the goal of keeping alive the chauvinistic spirit that the London leaders awakened in that European country when the United Kingdom staged a showy warmongering campaign to once again occupy the Malvinas Islands which were recovered by Argentina last year.

The British prime minister turned the South Atlantic war into something very personal. During the whole conflict, the firmness and determination of the so-called iron lady was stressed. She was presented as the leader who relived the best feats of the powerful British Empire of the past.

Margaret Thatcher is now trying to profit from that imperialist propaganda. Her trip to the Malvinas has the objective of improving her image in view of the coming elections in Britain that might be held in mid-1983.

However, electoral maneuvers don't always give the desired results. Sometimes the demagogic campaigns turn against those who promote them. Instead of helping to reactivate the impoverished economy of the United Kingdom, the propaganda festivities and events of the British prime minister in the Malvinas contributed to its deterioration.

Coinciding with Margaret Thatcher's visit to the Malvinas, the British currency, the pound sterling, has fallen to its lowest level in the past 6 years. (Bill Rogers), spokesman of the British Social Democratic Party, accused Margaret Thatcher of provoking that collapse. He said it is the result of having the British prime minister begin her electoral campaign in the Malvinas Islands. He said that the British prime minister is alarmed by the failure of her economic policies, and for this reason she is moving quickly before the roof caves in. She knows full well that inflation and unemployment will continue to increase this year, and that is why she is trying to advance the elections, (Rogers) added.

With about 4 million unemployed, Great Britain has the largest number of unemployed in Western Europe. Recession has hit British industry very hard. The number of companies declaring bankruptcy constantly increases, as does inflation.

The Margaret Thatcher government has been characterized by its monetary policy of high military budgets and reduction or elimination of social benefit plans. An unconditional ally of Washington, the London government supports the strengthening of NATO and the campaigns of threats of aggressions against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Such a policy has led the country to the edge of economic disaster. This is the image that the prime minister is now trying to erase with her unexpected visit to the British colony in the South Atlantic. The iron lady wants to revive the chauvinistic spirit and arrogance of past centuries. But such methods cannot strengthen the weak British economy, much less relieve the poverty of millions of British citizens who suffer hunger and all kinds of privations as a result of Margaret Thatcher's reactionary policy.

FIVE ARRESTED ON CHARGES OF FOMENTING REVOLT

PA180308 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0210 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Santo Domingo, 17 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) — Today the police arrested five leaders of a group for their alleged instigation of an armed revolt. A police spokesman said that Ramon Duran Guzman, former air force colonel, is among the leaders of the Pedro Santana Patriotic front. The front had been unheard of in the country until last week when it circulated a document calling all the military and peasants to take up their "swords and machetes" to struggle for national reconstruction. The document, which made the rumors of a coup with military support grow, has caused the armed forces to describe the patriotic front as a subversive group.

The Dominican Republic has been constitutionally governed by civilians since 1965 when intervention by U.S. Marines ended the civil war in the country.

GOVERNMENT ASKS PUBLIC TO THWART EXTREMISTS

FL190245 Bridgetown CANA in English 0043 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, Jan 18, CANA-REUTER — The government today disclosed the existence of "extremist groups" bent on destroying democracy in the Dominican Republic.

A statement signed by more than 50 top ranking officials urged the public to thwart any attempts that could endanger peace and stability in this Caribbean country which shares the island of Hispanola with Haiti. The statement was issued shortly after police arrested five people including a former air force colonel and accused them of instigating an armed uprising.

The group issued a manifesto last week calling on the military and peasantry to "fight for national reconstruction."

In the past few weeks security measures for President Salvador Jorge Blanco has been increased significantly. He now travels in an armoured car.

371 MILLION DOLLARS IN IMF DRAWING RIGHTS SOUGHT

FL181225 Bridgetown CANA in English 1118 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Santo Domingo, Jan 18, CANA-REUTER — The Dominican Republic has asked the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for 371 million dollars in special drawing rights to help overcome its economic problems in the next three years, a government spokesman said yesterday.

Finance Minister Jose Rafael Abinader said a letter of intent was sent to the IMF last Friday seeking the credit. In the letter the government pledged to adopt a series of measures to reactivate the country's economy including a six per cent sales tax, public sector credit limits and export incentives, Mr Abinader said.

A drop in the world price of sugar, the country's main source of revenue, has forced the government to seek IMF help and implement austerity measures. The Dominican Republic has admitted its foreign reserves are virtually depleted.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDABRAZIL CUTS LOAN, FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES CITED

FL172320 Bridgetown CANA in English 2209 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, Jan 17, CANA -- Brazil, beset with pressing economic difficulties, has told Antigua and Barbuda it can no longer provide all of a 90 million dollar (U.S.) loan on which the two countries had agreed last year, Prime Minister Vere Bird said today.

Mr Bird told reporters that the Brazilian Government said it could only provide 55 million dollars of the loan to finance the construction of a major tourist complex here. The remainder of the 90 million dollars would come from private banking sources in the South American state, the prime minister added.

As a result of its financial difficulties, Brazil recently obtained a six billion dollar (U.S.) loan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help shore up the economy.

Under the loan agreement with Antigua and Barbuda, the Brazilians will construct two hotels, two golf course, a yacht marine and a shopping plaza as part of the complex. The Brazilian Government, Mr Bird said, had assured Antigua and Barbuda that it would strive to fulfill its commitment despite its economic problems.

GRENADADETAILS OF HEALTH PACT WITH NICARAGUA DISCLOSED

FL181745 Bridgetown CANA in English 1512 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Jan 18, CANA -- Grenada and Nicaragua have signed a five-year agreement to cooperate in the area of health, according to an official statement issued here.

The agreement, the first of its kind between the two countries, was signed by the minister of health of Grenada, Christopher de Riggs, and Lea Guido, the health minister of Nicaragua's Sandinist Government.

Under the accord signed in the Nicaraguan capital, Managua, the two countries agreed to inform each other about their public health structures, and legal procedures involved in [words indistinct] The two states have also agreed to inform each other about their methods and results concerning public and community health, food hygiene, education and insect control, as well as an exchange of information on preventative medicine.

The release added that the two countries, in order to facilitate cooperation in medical sciences, agreed to an interchange of results on research in the fields of health science, as well as to support each other in the development of human resources needed to accomplish health programmes.

On the question on contagious disease, the statement noted that Grenada and Nicaragua agreed to provide information to each other on important cases related to epidemics which could have an influence on the epidemiological situations in both countries.

The agreement reached between the two countries was in accordance with the principle of equality and sovereignty of both nations, as well as non-intervention in each other's internal affairs, and solidarity between the peoples of Nicaragua and Grenada, the statement added.

BISHOP ANNOUNCES BENEFITS FOR ARMED FORCES

FL181738 Bridgetown CANA in English 1714 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Jan 18 CANA -- Grenada's People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) will soon receive a housing plant from Cuba to be used primarily for providing houses for members of the armed forces, Prime Minister Maurice Bishop has said. Mr Bishop, who is also commander-in-chief of Grenada's Armed Forces, made the announcement during a weekend address at a ceremony marking the end of Armed Forces Week. Mr Bishop said Cuba agreed to make the plant available to Grenada following discussions he held last year in Havana with President Fidel Castro. He said the plant would have a capacity of providing up to 300 houses per year for the armed forces, made up of the People's Revolutionary Army, the Police Service, the Cadet Corps, the Militia and other armed units. The plant is to be set up in the rural area of St Andrews.

The prime minister stated that the new houses would be distributed to those members of the armed forces with the greatest need for homes and to those who have been involved in the military since the leftist New Jewel Movement came to power here in March 1979.

Mr Bishop said the Grenada Government felt that the best way in which the house making scheme could work was to make the occupants pay about two-thirds of the normal rent paid on a monthly basis for houses in other projects in the country. He said the government was hopeful that after 15 years of such repayment, the houses would become the property of its occupants because this would be one way of ensuring that members of the armed forces obtained their own homes.

Mr Bishop also disclosed that efforts were being made by the Grenadian authorities to tackle some of the "material" problems being faced by members of the different armed units, and he referred to plans by government to set up a welfare programme under which needy soldiers would receive loans. The prime minister also announced plans for the creation of a credit scheme for the armed forces under which members would receive shares worth five dollars each, as well as plans for the development of a project offering basic food items to the armed forces at cost price.

HAITINURSES DENOUNCE 'INHUMAN' PRISON CONDITIONS

PA182228 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] The lives of political and other prisoners in Haiti are in imminent danger, as a result of the repression which Jean Claude Duvalier's regime has unleashed prior to the visit of Pope John Paul II. The pontiff is expected to visit at the end of February or the beginning of March. This repression was denounced by two Haitian Army nurses who asked not to be identified.

They said that whenever an international personality visits Haiti, the authorities transfer the political and other prisoners from the capital to the provinces and those that cannot be transferred in time are executed. They also charged that prisoners are injected with cortisone so that they appear to have gained weight before they leave prison. This was done during the so-called general amnesty last September, to prevent an international campaign which would have denounced the inhuman conditions in Haitian prisons.

ROK WARSHIP SALE TO VENEZUELA WORRIES DPRK

FL172103 Bridgetown CANA in English 2015 GMT 17 Jan 82

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 17, CANA -- North Korea's ambassador to Guyana, Pak I-hyon, has expressed concern about the recent sale by South Korea of a number of warships to Venezuela, which has a border dispute with this country.

He told newsmen today that the sale "should be viewed with some concern, as it is most significant because of the current border claim by Venezuela."

He added: "We are of the view, like the other non-aligned countries, that there should be no intervention in the internal affairs of member states."

Venezuela has a claim to five-eighths of Guyana.

The diplomat noted that the forthcoming summit of non-aligned nations, set for India, would most likely deal with the situation at a global level and at the same time give consideration to the application by Venezuela to join the movement.

The application, he said, "must take into consideration Venezuela's claim to this country and therefore the summit will have to deal with the application in terms of the non-aligned charter, which stipulates non-interference in the internal affairs of countries."

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES REDUCTION IN TRADE DEFICIT

FL171420 Bridgetown CANA in English 2120 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 15, CANA -- The Guyana Government has announced a substantial reduction in its trade deficit during the first seven months of last year, compared with the same period in 1981.

The January-July deficit last year stood at 69.8 million dollars (one Guy dollar; 33 cents U.S.), a government statement said. In 1981, the deficit over the first seven months was 166.9 million dollars.

The statement said that from January to July 1981, Guyana imported 681 million dollars worth of goods, while exporting 514.1 million dollars. The following year, imports were valued at 422.6 million dollars, in the same period, while exports declined to 373.8 million dollars.

Bauxite, sugar and rice accounted for the major slice of the country's foreign exchange earnings during the period under review, with bauxite earnings some 194.1 million dollars, sugar 97.2 million dollars and rice 34.1 million dollars.

During the seven-month period in 1982, Guyana earned 6.2 million dollars from the export of shrimp, 8.6 million dollars from wood and its products, 9.4 million dollars from drugs and 5.3 million dollars from alcohol.

In the previous year, rice had earned 62 million dollars, sugar 150.6 million dollars and bauxite 252.3 million dollars between January and July.

The statement said that Guyana reduced its energy imports from 268.1 million dollars in 1981 to 126 million dollars in 1982.

COMMENTATOR DISCUSSES SURINAME'S SITUATION

FL171355 Bridgetown CANA in English 2322 GMT 15 Jan 83

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Excerpts] Bridgetown, Barbados, Jan 15, CANA -- Suriname's Air Force Chief has fled the country and a dozen officers relieved of their duties as the ruling military leadership grapples with dissent within the army.

The official Suriname News Agency (SNA), in a dispatch to CANA, confirmed today that Commander John Vasilda had fled the country this week. The French news agency AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE (AFP) said the air force chief had arrived in neighboring French Guiana this week but he had left on Wednesday for an unknown destination believed to be Holland.

The SNA said the 12 officers had been removed from their army posts last Tuesday amid an internal shake-up within the armed forces.

"The desire to strengthen the unity and stability of the army has been the cause of the reorganisation of which the above move is the first step," the news agency said.

There was still some uncertainty today over unconfirmed reports that deputy army commander, Major Roy Horb, had tendered his resignation to Commander Lieutenant-Colonel Daysi Bouterse.

"I understand he is not in his old position of number two, but he is still in the army," a senior SNA official told CANA. But another official said the fact that Major Horb had chaired a recent ministers' meeting was an indication he had not stepped down.

The 12 army officers, now working in civilian posts, will continue, however, to receive the same salaries, the SNA reported.

SNA denied claims that the military had planned to close the country's border to check a massive outflow of citizens since last month's disturbances.

The top official confirmed that people were leaving the country, but he said they were mainly from the middle and upper classes. No specific figures were available, he said.

TWO ARMED FORCES OFFICERS REPORTEDLY REMOVED

PA160144 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Jan 83

[Text] It has been reported in Paramaribo that two armed forces officers have been removed from their posts and given other tasks in order to allow the army to fulfill its vanguard role. The official declaration states that these changes are part of a continuous integration of the army with the people.